

L will answer

LAW OFFICE OF  
JEFFREY A. HAAS  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
433 TURK STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102  
(415) 776-3900

JUNE 15, 1978

STEPHEN A. DOBRENCHUK, CHIEF  
Emergency & Protection Service  
Division  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Mr. Dobrenchuk:

Thank you for your letter of April 14, 1978 wherein you claim that Mr. Clarence Hughes has expressed a favorable opinion with regard to the Stoeng's custody case in Guyana. Mr. Hughes has consistently remained guarded as to the outcome of the procedural aspects in this custody case. He is aware, as are you, that there was governmental interference as early as September of 1977.

I am enclosing an affidavit signed under penalty of perjury by Deborah Blakey. Mr. Blakey recently escaped from the People's Temple and is extremely concerned for the welfare of not only John Victor Stoen, but also the remaining U.S. citizens in Jonestown.

She points out that while the State Dept. has made some contact with American citizens living in Jonestown, its investigation to uncover the actual conditions is inadequate.

SCS custody case  
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JUN 27 1978

cc sent to  
R Henderson  
in CM/L  
DLR

Duplicate  
of this letter  
sent to Mr  
Powers in  
w/w

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDO/HR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

REASON FOR RESUBMIT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☐ RECLASSIFIED ☒

RELEASE REVIEWED ☐

EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

Page Two

June 15, 1978

I continue to regard this matter as extremely important, and again request your assistance in reaching some solution. The Guyanese judge has now had a habeas corpus matter under submission for nearly five months. This is wholly unacceptable under any law with which I am familiar, and I think without question constitutes "excessive delay". Further, referring to paragraph (17) of the enclosed affidavit, Ms. Blakey makes it clear that the delay is due to Mr. Jim Jones' threats of mass suicide.

I have been advised that the State Dept.'s legal advisor would be in contact with me regarding an interpretation of international law governing this case. Our position was enclosed with our letter of March 16, 1978. As of yet, I have received no response.

I look forward to your immediate attention to this most critical situation.

Very truly yours

JEFFREY A. HAAS

JAH/kh

Enclosure

RECEIVED



scd L/CA

LAW OFFICE OF  
JERRY A. HAYS  
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JUN 23 1978

JUNE 15, 1978

MS. ELIZABETH A. POWERS  
Special Consular Services  
Department of State  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Ms. Powers:

I am enclosing an affidavit signed under penalty of perjury by Deborah Blakey. Ms. Blakey recently escaped from the People's Temple and is extremely concerned for the welfare of not only John Victor Stoen, but also the remaining U.S. citizens in Jonestown.

She points out that while the State Dept. has made some contact with American citizens living in Jonestown, its investigation to uncover the actual conditions is inadequate. I continue to regard this matter as extremely important, and again request your assistance in reaching some solution. The Guyanese judge has now had a habeas corpus matter under submission for nearly five months. This is wholly unacceptable under any law with which I am familiar, and I think without question constitutes "excessive delay". Further, referring to paragraph (17) of the enclosed affidavit, Ms. Blakey makes it clear that the delay is due to Mr. Jim Jones threats of mass suicide.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_

FOI AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

EXEMPTED EXISTING EXEMPTIONS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☐ UNCLASSIFIED ☒

RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

ENCLOSURE

DECLASSIFIED

Page Two

June 15, 1978

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JEFFREY A. HAAS

JAH/kh

Enclosure

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**AFFIDAVIT OF DEBORAH LAYTON BLAKETT**

under penalty of perjury:

1. The purpose of this affidavit is to call to the attention of the United States government the existence of a situation which threatens the lives of United States citizens living in Jonestown, Guyana.

2. From August, 1971, until May 13, 1978, I was a member of the People's Temple. For a substantial period of time prior to my departure for Guyana in December, 1977, I held the position of Financial Secretary of the People's Temple.

3. I was 18 years old when I joined the People's Temple. I had grown up in affluent circumstances in the permissive atmosphere of Berkeley, California. By joining the People's Temple, I hoped to help others and in the process to bring structure and self-discipline to my own life.

4. During the years I was a member of the People's Temple, I watched the organization depart with increasing frequency from its professed dedication to social change and participatory democracy. The Rev. Jim Jones gradually assumed a tyrannical hold over the lives of Temple members.

5. Any disagreement with his dictates came to be regarded as "treason". The Rev. Jones labelled any person

who left the organization a "traitor" and "fair game". He steadfastly and convincingly maintained that the punishment for defection was death. The fact that severe corporal punishment was frequently administered to Temple members gave the threats a frightening air of reality.

6. The Rev. Jones saw himself as the center of a conspiracy. The identity of the conspirators changed from day to day along with his erratic world vision. He induced the fear in others that, through their contact with him, they had become targets of the conspiracy. He convinced black Temple members that if they did not follow him to Guyana, they would be put into concentration camps and killed. White members were instilled with the belief that their names appeared on a secret list of enemies of the state that was kept by the C.I.A. and that they would be tracked down, tortured, imprisoned, and subsequently killed if they did not flee to Guyana.

7. Frequently, at Temple meetings, Rev. Jones would talk non-stop for hours. At various times, he claimed that he was the reincarnation of either Lenin, Jesus Christ, or one of a variety of other religious or political figures. He claimed that he had divine powers and could heal the sick. He stated that he had extrasensory perception and could tell what everyone was thinking. He said that he had powerful connections the world over, including the Mafia, Idi Amin, and the Soviet government.

8. When I first joined the Temple, Rev. Jones

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seemed to make clear distinctions between fantasy and reality. I believed that most of the time when he said irrational things, he was aware that they were irrational, but that they served as a tool of his leadership. His theory was that the end justified the means. At other times, he appeared to be deluded by a paranoid vision of the world. He would not sleep for days at a time and talk compulsively about the conspiracies against him. However, as time went on, he appeared to become genuinely irrational.

9. Rev. Jones insisted that Temple members work long hours and completely give up all semblance of a personal life. Proof of loyalty to Jones was confirmed by actions showing that a member had given up everything, even basic necessities. The most loyal were in the worst physical condition. Dark circles under one's eyes or extreme loss of weight were considered signs of loyalty.

10. The primary emotions I came to experience were exhaustion and fear. I knew that Rev. Jones was in some sense "sick", but that did not make me any less afraid of him.

11. Rev. Jones fled the United States in June, 1977 amidst growing public criticism of the practices of the Temple. He informed members of the Temple that he would be imprisoned for life if he did not leave immediately.

12. Between June, 1977 and December, 1977, when I was ordered to depart for Guyana, I had access to coded radio broadcasts from Rev. Jones in Guyana to the People's

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Temple headquarters in San Francisco.

13. In September, 1977, an event which Rev. Jones viewed as a major crisis occurred. Through listening to coded radio broadcasts and conversations with other members of the Temple staff, I learned that an attorney for former Temple member Grace Stoen had arrived in Guyana, seeking the return of her son, John Victor Stoen.

14. Rev. Jones has expressed particular bitterness toward Grace Stoen. She had been Chief Counselor, a position of great responsibility within the Temple. Her personal qualities of generosity and compassion made her very popular with the membership. Her departure posed a threat to Rev. Jones' absolute control. Rev. Jones delivered a number of public tirades against her. He said that her kindness was faked and that she was a C.I.A. agent. He swore that he would never return her son to her.

15. I am informed that Rev. Jones believed that he would be able to stop Timothy Stoen, husband of Grace Stoen and father of John Victor Stoen, from speaking against the Temple as long as the child was being held in Guyana. Timothy Stoen, a former Assistant District Attorney in Mendocino and San Francisco counties, had been one of Rev. Jones' most trusted advisors. It was rumored that Stoen was critical of the use of physical force and other forms of intimidation against Temple members. I am further informed that Rev. Jones believed that a public statement by Timothy Stoen would increase the tarnish on his public image.

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16. When the Temple lost track of Timothy Stoen, I was assigned to track him down and offer him a large sum of money in return for his silence. Initially, I was to offer him \$5,000. I was authorized to pay him up to \$10,000. I was not able to locate him and did not see him again until on or about October 6, 1977. On that date, the Temple received information that he would be joining Grace in a San Francisco Superior Court action to determine the custody of John. I was one of a group of Temple members assigned to meet him outside the court and attempt to intimidate him to prevent him from going inside.

17. The September, 1977 crisis concerning John Stoen reached major proportions. The radio messages from Guyana were frenzied and hysterical. One morning, Terry J. Buford, public relations advisor to Rev. Jones, and myself were instructed to place a telephone call to a high-ranking Guyanese official who was visiting the United States and deliver the following threat: unless the government of Guyana took immediate steps to stall the Guyanese court action regarding John Stoen's custody, the entire population of Jonestown would extinguish itself in a mass suicide by 3:30 p.m. that day. I was later informed that Temple members in Guyana placed similar calls to other Guyanese officials.

18. We later received radio communication to the effect that the court case had been stalled and that the suicide threat was called off.

19. I arrived in Guyana in December, 1977. I

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spent a week in Georgetown and then, pursuant to orders, traveled to Jonestown.

20. Conditions at Jonestown were much worse than I had feared they would be. The settlement was swarming with armed guards. No one was permitted to leave unless on a special assignment and these assignments were given only to the most trusted. We were allowed to associate with Guyanese people only while on a "mission".

21. The vast majority of the Temple members were required to work in the fields from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. six days per week and on Sunday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. We were allowed one hour for lunch. Most of this hour was spent walking back to lunch and standing in line for our food. Taking any other breaks during the workday was severely frowned upon.

22. The food was woefully inadequate. There was rice for breakfast, rice water soup for lunch, and rice and beans for dinner. On Sunday, we each received an egg and a cookie. Two or three times a week we had vegetables. Some very weak and elderly members received one egg per day. However, the food did improve markedly on the few occasions when there were outside visitors.

23. In contrast, Rev. Jones, claiming problems with his blood sugar, dined separately and ate meat regularly. He had his own refrigerator which was stocked with food. The two women with whom he resided, Maria Katsaris and Carolyn Layton, and the two small boys who lived with him,

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Kim Prokes and John Stoen, dined with the membership.

However, they were in much better physical shape than everyone else since they were also allowed to eat the food in Rev. Jones' refrigerator.

24. In February, 1978, conditions had become so bad that half of Jonestown was ill with severe diarrhea and high fevers. I was seriously ill for two weeks. Like most of the other sick people, I was not given any nourishing foods to help recover. I was given water and a tea drink until I was well enough to return to the basic rice and beans diet.

25. As the former financial secretary, I was aware that the Temple received over \$65,000 in Social Security checks per month. It made me angry to see that only a fraction of the income of the senior citizens in the care of the Temple was being used for their benefit. Some of the money was being used to build a settlement that would earn Rev. Jones the place in history with which he was so obsessed. The balance was being held in "reserve". Although I felt terrible about what was happening, I was afraid to say anything because I knew that anyone with a differing opinion gained the wrath of Jones and other members.

26. Rev. Jones' thoughts were made known to the population of Jonestown by means of broadcasts over the loudspeaker system. He broadcast an average of six hours per day. When the Reverend was particularly agitated, he would broadcast for hours on end. He would talk on and on

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while we worked in the fields or tried to sleep. In addition to the daily broadcasts, there were marathon meetings six nights per week.

27. The tenor of the broadcasts revealed that Rev. Jones' paranoia had reached an all-time high. He was irate at the light in which he had been portrayed by the media. He felt that as a consequence of having been ridiculed and maligned, he would be denied a place in history. His obsession with his place in history was maniacal. When pondering the loss of what he considered his rightful place in history, he would grow despondent and say that all was lost.

28. Visitors were infrequently permitted access to Jonestown. The entire community was required to put on a performance when a visitor arrived. Before the visitor arrived, Rev. Jones would instruct us on the image we were to project. The workday would be shortened. The food would be better. Sometimes there would be music and dancing. Aside from these performances, there was little joy or hope in any of our lives. An air of despondency prevailed.

29. There was constant talk of death. In the early days of the People's Temple, general rhetoric about dying for principles was sometimes heard. In Jonestown, the concept of mass suicide for socialism arose. Because our lives were so wretched anyway and because we were so afraid to contradict Rev. Jones, the concept was not challenged.

30. An event which transpired shortly after I

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reached Jonestown convinced me that Rev. Jones had sufficient control over the minds of the residents that it would be possible for him to effect a mass suicide.

31. At least once a week, Rev. Jones would declare a "white night", or state of emergency. The entire population of Jonestown would be awakened by blaring sirens. Designated persons, approximately fifty in number, would arm themselves with rifles, move from cabin to cabin, and make certain that all members were responding. A mass meeting would ensue. Frequently during these crises, we would be told that the jungle was swarming with mercenaries and that death could be expected at any minute.

32. During one "white night", we were informed that our situation had become hopeless and that the only course of action open to us was a mass suicide for the glory of socialism. We were told that we would be tortured by mercenaries if we were taken alive. Everyone, including the children, was told to line up. As we passed through the line, we were given a small glass of red liquid to drink. We were told that the liquid contained poison and that we would die within 45 minutes. We all did as we were told. When the time came when we should have dropped dead, Rev. Jones explained that the poison was not real and that we had just been through a loyalty test. He warned us that the time was not far off when it would become necessary for us to die by our own hands.

33. Life at Jonestown was so miserable and the

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physical pain of exhaustion was so great that this event was not traumatic for me. I had become indifferent as to whether I lived or died.

34. During another "white night", I watched Carolyn Layton, my former sister-in-law, give sleeping pills to two young children in her care, John Victor Stoen and Kimo Prokes, her own son. Carolyn said to me that Rev. Jones had told her that everyone was going to have to die that night. She said that she would probably have to shoot John and Kimo and that it would be easier for them if she did it while they were asleep.

35. In April, 1978, I was reassigned to Georgetown. I became determined to escape or die trying. I surreptitiously contacted my sister, who wired me a plane ticket. After I received the ticket, I sought the assistance of the United States Embassy in arranging to leave Guyana. Rev. Jones had instructed us that he had a spy working in the United States Embassy and that he would know if anyone went to the embassy for help. For this reason, I was very fearful.

36. I am most grateful to the United States government and Richard McCoy and Daniel Weber, in particular, for the assistance they gave me. However, the efforts made to investigate conditions in Jonestown are inadequate for the following reasons. The infrequent visits are always announced and arranged. Acting in fear for their lives, Temple members respond as they are told. The members appear

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to speak freely to American representatives, but in fact they are drilled thoroughly prior to each visit on what questions to expect and how to respond. Members are afraid of retaliation if they speak their true feelings in public.

37. On behalf of the population of Jonestown, I urge that the United States Government take adequate steps to safeguard their rights. I believe that their lives are in danger.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, except as to those matters stated on information and belief and as to those I believe them to be true.

Executed this \_\_\_\_ day of June, 1978 at San Francisco, California.

DEBORAH LAYTON BLAKEY

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# Escapee tells of suicide plan at Rev. Jones outpost

A United Peoples Temple adherent escaped last month from "The Promised Land," the church's 27,000-acre farm in Guyana, South America, where the 1,100 U.S. citizens residing there are prepared to commit mass suicide on the orders of their leader, the Rev. Jim Jones.

Robert Layton, 25, a graduate of Santa Rosa Junior College who joined the controversial church when it was first founded in Redwood Valley, told The Press Democrat that Jones has set up an elaborate plan for exterminating the population of the jungle outpost if it should ever "turn water black."

"There will be a group assigned to lead each of the children," the

the office of her attorney, Jeff Hays, San Francisco. "Then there was another group assigned to take care of those who broke out against Jones."

Everybody who was going to kill anybody had someone assigned to shoot to kill."

When Hays went to Guyana, he reported that Jones had in a custody battle with Jones in September, Layton said, Jones ordered her and other temple aides to threaten Guyanese officials with a grisly ultimatum.

the same article "would create an international incident."

Jones, she said, described this tactic as "The crazy singer approach."

Grace Hays and her estranged husband, Tim, Guyana's assistant district attorney of Henderson County, are awaiting a decision from the Guyanese court on the legal battle to gain custody of their son, John, age six.

The Rev. Jones claimed he is the father of the child.

"John Hays is treated very well," said Layton. "He lives with Marie Katsaris, who lives in the same cabin where Jim Jones lives," John, she added, "tells Jim Jones

that he came out of her (Hays) stomach."

According to official records, John Hays was born Jan. 24, 1972 at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital. Tim and Grace Hays are listed on the birth certificate as the child's parents.

Marie Katsaris' father, Steve, has filed a libel suit against the temple over allegations by Marie that he molested her as a child.

Katsaris, a spokesman for Concerned Relatives, a group that is trying to open communications with spiritualists at the jungle outpost, is the director of Trinity School.

(Continued on Page 11A)



The Peoples Temple, founded in South America was attacked yesterday as a terrorist who who the church leader, the Rev. Jim Jones, orders public beatings, maintains a system of internal courts and has involved his 11,000 followers in a threat of mass suicide.

This description was provided by Deborah Layton, 23, who was a member of Jones' cult until she asked American consular officials for help in obtaining her departure from Guyana, where the temple has its operational mission.

Peoples Temple offices in San Francisco last night refused -- via telephone judge from Guyana -- a statement of the church from two of the South American missions' agents, who said Jones and his followers are "friendly and other" to the local police.

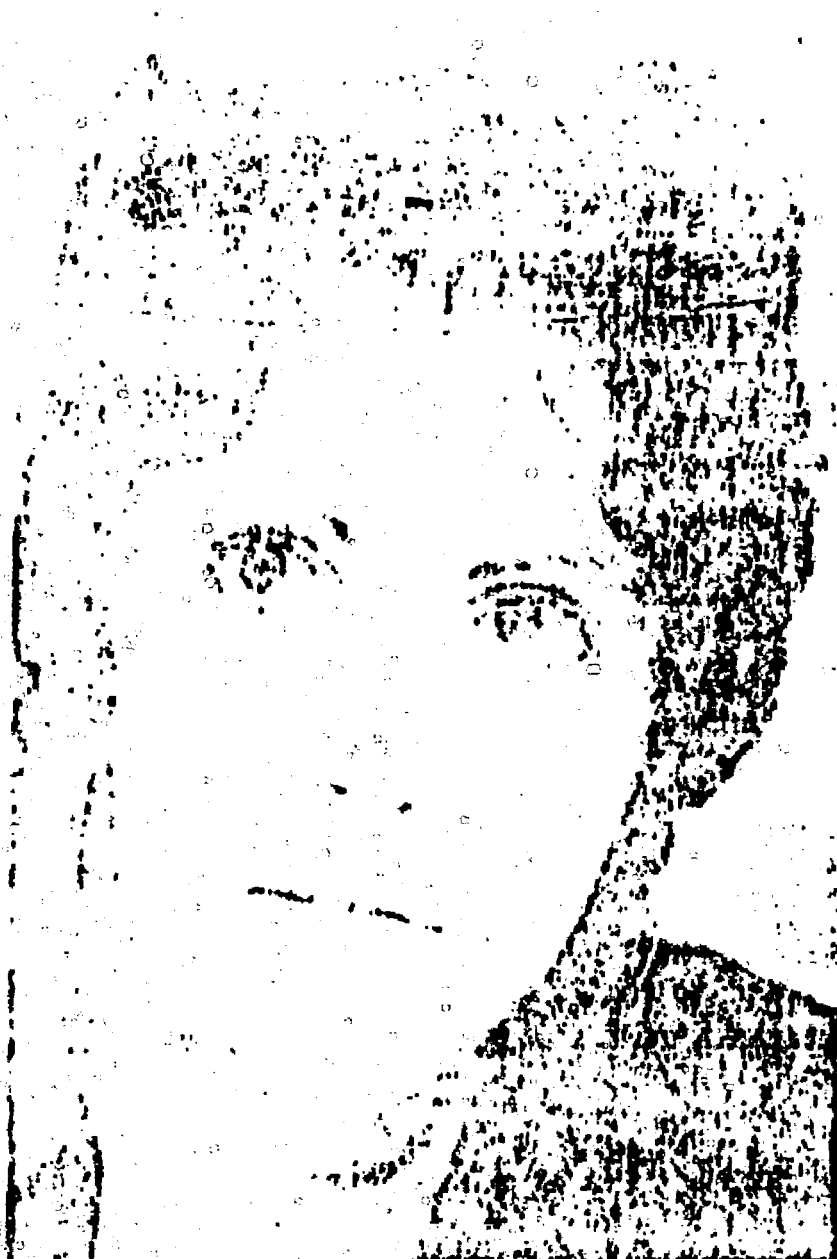
"These descriptions reflect us to be," Layton said. "We are devoted to humanity here."

Larry J. Smith said, "We are not to be angry."

San Francisco temple officer Jones added, "We absolutely are all the charges. This just is to believe more than ever there is a conspiracy against church."

Jones became the center of a wave of controversy last summer when he shipped out of San Francisco with his followers for Guyana. The charges were made by his followers that Jones had forced labor and sexual relations on converts, that he overruled laws of church members in his meetings and that he had used more than \$5 million in donations.

According to Layton, Jones has been a "paranoid" obsessed with ideas in his own talks who told him to do and work hard in the farm fields and with



DEBORAH LAYTON, A FORMER AIDE TO JIM JONES  
She told of armed guards and savage discipline

California has now turned to a military-style violence against an imminent attack by unspecified "terrorists," Layton said.

The temple beliefs are portrayed by two rings of black-uniformed armed guards, men and women

and an elderly woman was humiliated by being forced to strip. Younger members are "hunted" by having their ground laid their foreheads, and others are ordered to an underground "box" where they must sit for day at a time, Layton said.

Washington, D.C. (AP) —

Continued on p. 2

The diet consists mostly of rice, purchased in the Guyana capital of Georgetown because the farm is not expected to be self-sufficient for another three years she said.

She said that on the occasion of visits from outsiders whom Jones wished to impress, church members are treated to meat and vegetables. Other trusted followers she claimed were drilled to give equivocal opinions about life at the mission, called Jonestown.

Jones, who often went to radio-television to present his public image in San Francisco, has remained at the mission, refusing even to venture into Georgetown, she reported.

Among his concerns has been a pending child custody case in the Guyana capital.

She said the 11,000 followers were told to drink a bitter brown liquid potion, after which they supposedly would fall asleep and then be taken by Jones' guards. The rehearsal went as far as having the community drink a phony potion before Jones called it off, Layton added.

Layton said she was able to leave Guyana by exchanging a trip to Georgetown. After several days she secretly arranged with American consular officials to obtain an emergency passport and flew to New York on May 12. She is now living in San Francisco.

"Everyone there wants to leave, I'm sure of it," she said. "But you never get a chance to be alone. Everyone is told to spy on other people."

A surprisingly large number of Americans — particularly among the younger and better educated — believe in paranormal phenomena such as the occult and supernatural beings.

This conclusion is based on a recent survey of the nation's adults, who were asked to indicate whether they believe in a wide variety of phenomena, ranging from such topics as astrology in depth to the likelihood that you have been somewhere or done something you haven't.

Here are the main findings:

A solid majority (67 percent) of those aware of unidentified flying objects believe they are real and not imaginary. In Great Britain, where there have been far fewer sightings, many more skeptics are found. 27 percent say they believe in flying saucers.

A majority of 64 percent believe in ghosts. The percentage increases to 68 percent among persons surveyed who say their religious beliefs are very important to their lives.

About half of those surveyed (49 percent) believe in ESP, sensory perception. Two-thirds of persons with a college background (66 percent) do so.

About four in ten (40 percent) of the sample say they believe in death (59 percent of those who say their religious beliefs are very important to their lives).

Preoccupation (the feeling that something is going to happen that hasn't actually happened) and deja vu (the feeling you have been somewhere you haven't been before, or have done something you haven't done before) are common

Alta P. Fowler  
Bureau of Security &  
Main State Building  
Washington, DC 20520

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Dear Mr./Ms. Fowler:

Again I am taking the opportunity to write directly to you, as continuing bias in the press has made it ~~more~~ impossible for the Peoples Temple to be represented accurately except through its own efforts.

Recently, a U.S. reporter, Mrs. Kathy Hunter, went to Guyana claiming to have been invited by the Guyanese Prime Minister, Forbes Burnham, whom she claimed was a personal friend. Although she was allegedly intending to do a story on the Peoples Temple Agricultural Project, Jonestown, she made no prior confirmation of her visit with Rev. Jones or the Project. When Peoples Temple members met with her at her own invitation, they were very cordial to her, and invited her to visit Jonestown, but she refused every invitation. Her refusal was based on being told Jim Jones was not right on the Project site at that time. This woman was obviously not interested in seeing the quality of life and welfare of the close to 1500 residents in Jonestown, which was made available to her. Rather, she threatened the Temple members she met with, that if things didn't go exactly as she wanted them to, it would "go badly" for the Peoples Temple.

The Honorable Vibert Mingo, Guyana's Minister of Home Affairs, who is very favorable to the United States, issued the statement of the Guyanese government: "We have investigated and found her (Kathy Hunter's) statements to be totally untrue and that she lied to gain entry into the country which is a violation of our law." Mr. Mingo's statement was definitive, and would have resolved the matter entirely. It was given out to all the media, but NONE REPORTED IT.

Mrs. Hunter was portrayed as travelling to Guyana as an independent journalist, though she herself admitted she was sponsored by several journals. Whoever was behind Mrs. Hunter's trip, they could not have done a more "professional" job of frustrating relations between two countries if they were paid. Mrs. Hunter claimed she was subjected to numerous anonymous harassments, which the media and herself insinuated to be the responsibility of the Peoples Temple and/or the Guyanese government. Numerous episodes were even invented, such as "interrogation", "threats", and "protective custody" — all attributed to the Peoples Temple in the fashion of experienced yellow journalism.

It is a great shame to see this happen, an affront to Guyana, who has shown friendship towards the United States, and to the high official, the Honorable Mr. Mingo, whose words were blotted out in favor of vicious smears against Guyana and the Peoples Temple. The Peoples Temple project, Jonestown, with its over 1,000 citizens, is very supportive of the Carter Administration policies in the Caribbean, and Rev. Jones has made that known through over 3,000 short wave contacts to points all across the United States and other parts of the world. The Peoples Temple publicly praised the President, and the United States at a recent national cultural festival in the capital, Georgetown. It seems a shame that government itself would not be concerned to counteract forces out to destroy this kind of consistent friendship.

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We can only question who is this interested in trying to destroy relations between the United States and a country as relatively moderate and well-disposed towards the United States government as Guyana. What is being done is causing very strained relations where they did not exist before, and is obviously provocation. The entire mold of the Kathy Hunter incident is conspiratorial: No independent, relatively unknown journalist from a small town, travelling thousands of miles away and with no news agency on the scene would provoke an instant media blitz of false publicity and smears if it were not conspiratorial. But it is past time that something is done to bring this to light and deal with it.

Thousands of people are concerned. Over 3,000 people in this area alone have signed a petition to President Cartar and other governmental leaders protesting the continuing harassment of the Peoples Temple work, which was recently sent to Washington, and more signatures are on the way from other areas. There are tens of thousands more across the country. (Due to the expenses of maintaining our human service work and free medical clinic in Guyana, we are unable to send you a personal copy at this time.) Not only are people upset that Rev. Jim Jones and Peoples Temple are under attack, when they have done so much to alleviate the hardcore urban problems of unemployment, crime, and drug abuse, but there are obviously efforts to undermine U.S.-Caribbean relations. The American people are tired of the kind of tactics for which the CIA has gained us an unfortunate reputation in so many areas of the world in days past. It is about time it ended.

The other side has yet to be told, but it takes no trickery or deceit to do it, just direct, factual news reporting. A prominent United Methodist minister and his wife just returned from visiting their adult daughters and grandchild in Jonestown, and brought back glowing reports which they shared with the news media in a press conference. Their reports were almost entirely blocked out, in favor of more smears relating to Kathy Hunter. It is a misfortune and a great loss that there is so little interest in good, even spectacular news. The Jonestown community in Guyana could be an enormous asset to the United States, a bulwark of accomplishment and friendship to underdeveloped nations.

I am enclosing information for your interest -- a pamphlet which recounts and documents the nature of the recent smears. A brochure of responses of visitors to Jonestown, including numerous prominent officials, is being prepared and will be mailed to you soon. You can judge for yourself the blatant contrast between the two and its significance.

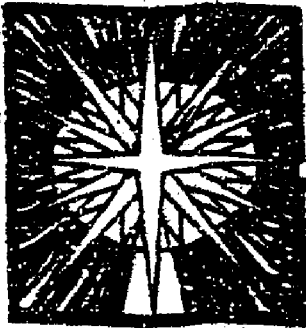
We remain appalled and concerned, and commend the issue again to our national leaders.

Sincerely,

H. B. Newell

H. B. Newell

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Peoples Temple  
P.O. Box 15023  
San Francisco, CA.

June 12, 1978

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OPEN LETTER TO THE MEDIA AND THE COMMUNITY

On Sunday May 28, 1978, the Peoples Temple held a press conference to let the public hear firsthand about Jonestown, Guyana from a widely respected United Methodist minister and his wife who had just returned from visiting their two daughters and grandson at the Peoples Temple Agricultural Project.

Although most of the major media were present at the press conference, only one reported any of the views of Rev. and Mrs. Moore. The Moores' comments resoundingly refuted the allegations against the Temple based on claims of the so-called "Concerned Relatives" group. With all the attention given by the media over the past year to the "charges" levelled against Peoples Temple and Rev. Jim Jones, it is remarkable that there is such disinterest in giving direct refutation any forum at all.

Rather than covering the Moores' glowing reports of the Jonestown community, the media devoted their attention to a new series of "charges" --all entirely false-- relating to the visit of a news reporter, Kathy Hunter, to Guyana. They showed no inclination to search out the facts of the case or even quote the official statement from the Guyanese Minister of Home Affairs, whose comment would have resolved the matter completely. The stories that did appear were so filled with errors and contradictions that the public did not get "news" at all, just more fabrication and speculation.

Any objective observer can conclude that the situation involving Kathy Hunter was a publicity ploy. Examination of the coverage, starting with her claim that the Prime Minister of Guyana had personally invited her to Jonestown (which call she later admitted was probably a "hoax"), shows it was nothing but a smear to insinuate that Peoples Temple could possibly be responsible for Kathy Hunter's misadventures.

Peoples Temple wholly denies the recent allegations made by Mrs. Hunter and the various news media. We would like to know who made the alleged invitation over the telephone to Mrs. Hunter, if indeed there was such a call. We would like to know who was responsible for the false fire alarms and the bomb threats and the alleged "bugging" of her phone; and how the stories of "protective custody" and "interrogation" were invented. It might prove the best lead yet to the source behind the continued smear campaign against the Temple, and the conspiracy which attempted to cut off our members' Social Security checks, to interfere with our amateur radio communications between the U.S. and Guyana, the blackmail, payoffs, bribery, electronic surveillance, and attempts to stir up numerous agency investigations based on false charges.

This new "staged event" is reminiscent of the whole campaign against the Temple which was initiated last year by the alleged "break-in" of the New West magazine office. When Rev. Jones demanded a full-scale police investigation, the police found no evidence that any "break-in" had occurred at all.

The following points will recount what actually happened in Guyana, and enumerate all the contradictions and fabrications that were put out to the public as "news":

The entire premise of Hunter's visit to Guyana was false: KATHY HUNTER MISREPRESENTED HERSELF TO GAIN ENTRY INTO THE COUNTRY. The Honorable Vihert Ringo, Minister of Home Affairs for the government of Guyana, stated: "We have investigated and found her (Kathy Hunter's) statements to be totally untrue and that she lied to gain entry into our country which is a violation of our law." This statement was released to all the major media. None reported it.

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Mrs. Hunter told the Guyanese government that she was a personal friend of the Prime Minister, and that he had invited her to come. Though Mrs. Hunter had been considered a friend by Rev. Jones and the Peoples Temple, she did not inform them of her intended visit until after she had arrived. And though Mrs. Hunter's stated reason for coming to Guyana was to write a story on Jonestown, she refused every invitation to visit the Jonestown project once she was in the country.

Contradictions given out in the press:

1. She went to do a story on Jonestown:

"Her sole purpose was to write an objective story after visiting Jonestown..."  
(Ukiah Daily Journal, 5/28/78).

She went to do a story on Georgetown:

"She was in that South American country to do a story on the camp in Georgetown..." (KPIX-TV, 5/26/78).

2. She went "simply to talk" to the people there:

"According to Mrs. Hunter's husband, George Hunter, Executive Editor of the Ukiah Daily Journal, his wife had gone to Guyana 'simply to talk' to a few relatives of local (Ukiah area) residents serving on the church's 'agricultural outpost' there". (Press Democrat, 5/28/78).

She went to "investigate":

"...a reporter who is in Guyana investigating the controversial Peoples Temple church..." (KCBS radio news, 5/26/78).

3. She was invited by the Guyanese government:

"Raymond (managing editor of the UDJ) said Mrs. Hunter was invited to Guyana by the government there to view Peoples Temple operations in its country." (UDJ, 5/26/78).

She wasn't invited by the Guyanese government:

"She (Mrs. Hunter) ... learned that she had been hoaxed into believing that Guyana's premier, Forbes Burnham, had invited her to the South American country." (San Francisco Examiner, 5/30/78)

4. She had the right to be there:

"The reporter had every right to go to Jonestown." (UDJ Editorial, 5/25/78).

She didn't have the right to be there:

"...she (Mrs. Hunter) says she was ordered to leave the country because she was told she had lied to the immigration officials." (Ex. 5/30/78).

5. The Guyanese government asked Mrs. Hunter to report on Jonestown. She was also on assignment for the Ukiah Daily Journal:

"...Mrs. Hunter was invited by the Guyana government to report on the activities of Peoples Temple in the South American country... Mrs. Hunter, who frequently works on assignment for the newspaper (Ukiah Daily Journal) sought to investigate the Temple... and to follow up local angles as a result of temple activities at its church in nearby Redwood Valley." (Los Angeles Times, 5/27/78, as per managing editor of the Ukiah Daily Journal).

Mrs. Hunter was not on assignment for the Ukiah Daily Journal. She is not even employed by them:

"Mrs. Hunter, who formerly worked for the Daily Journal, but is not employed by the paper on this time and was on assignment..." (UDJ, 5/28/78).

6. The Peoples Temple interrogated and threatened Mrs. Hunter, to keep her away from Jonestown so she wouldn't be able to write a bad article:

"Mrs. Hunter has... spent the last seven days in Georgetown's Pegasus Hotel following intensive 'interrogation' by members of Rev. Jim Jones' church... There was apparently a threat, direct or implied, over whether her story would come out pro-Jones or anti-church..." (UDJ, 5/28/78).

Mrs. Hunter claims she ran into no problems at all until Temple members invited her to Jonestown and she refused:

"Recounting her troubles, Mrs. Hunter said everything was 'sweetness and light' until she turned down an invitation by the church to be its guest at Jonestown..." (Press Democrat, 5/28/78).

7. Mrs. Hunter was placed in "protective custody" to keep the Peoples Temple away from her:

"The Guyanese National Police... quickly posted a guard outside her hotel door... a police escort to the airport... which would indicate the authorities believed Jones' followers were not above additional harassment..." (UDJ, 5/28/78).

Temple members visited her after she was confined to her room in "protective custody":

"...she (Mrs. Hunter) was approached.. by temple members who offered to allow her to visit the mission, but she had remained in protective custody". (Ex. 5/26/78)

Falsifications given out in the press:

1. "PROTECTIVE CUSTODY": Kathy Hunter was never held in protective custody. The Guyanese government found that Mrs. Hunter had entered the country on false pretense and falsified her papers on entry. They checked out her story, found she had entered the country in violation of Guyanese law, and also international law which is supposed to be respected in all countries. Finally they asked her to leave. She was never in "protective custody". Temple members had very cordially invited her to visit the Project.

The following media carried the false report about "protective custody":

Ukiah Daily Journal; Press Democrat; S.F. Examiner; L.A. Times; KGO radio news; KCBS radio news; KTVU-TV; KPIX-TV; KGO-TV; KDIA; KKHT; KUKI Ukiah; and doubtless other sources of which the Peoples Temple is not aware, as UPI carried this false report.

The many "shocking details" --all entirely false-- include:

She was "seized". (UDJ, 5/26/78);  
"She was placed under armed guard" (Ex. 5/26/78);  
"Police state tactics" were used against Mrs. Hunter (KGO-TV, 5/28/78);  
She was "locked in her hotel for a week" (Press Democrat, 5/28/78);  
"A guard was posted outside her hotel door" (UDJ, 5/28/78);  
She was guaranteed "an armed guard to the airport" (UDJ, 5/28/78).

Not only is every one of these reports fictional, but what is she claiming to need protection from? We don't carry knives or guns, or anything lethal at all. We voluntarily offered to people concerned to undergo a search, because we are non-violent and carry no kind of weapon.

2. "INTERROGATION": Mrs. Hunter was never interrogated. It is an unmitigated lie that the Temple made anything but the friendliest of overtures to her. Mrs. Hunter was invi-



ted to the Project twice, and refused to go. She was invited to a Temple cultural presentation in Georgetown, accepted the tickets, and never came. When she complained the hotel rates were too high, Temple members volunteered to assist her in moving.

3. "HARASSMENT": The Peoples Temple did not harass Mrs. Hunter in any way. Several media reports insinuated that the Peoples Temple was responsible for the "hoax call" bringing Mrs. Hunter to Guyana, the "mysterious fires in the storerooms and hallways of her hotel", the "five false fire alarms", and the "bomb threats". Mrs. Hunter directly accused the Temple (Ex. 5/30/78) of keeping her under constant surveillance and bugging her telephone.

What is remarkable about all these claimed "harassments" however, is that they are anonymous in character. It would appear that someone was very intent on giving Mrs. Hunter a hard time, and having it falsely blamed on the Peoples Temple.

4. "THREATS": The Peoples Temple did not threaten Mrs. Hunter about a possible story; or threaten her at all.

The truth is the reverse: MRS. HUNTER THREATENED THE TEMPLE WITH BAD PRESS COVERAGE, ALONG WITH HER REFUSAL TO EVEN SEE THE PROJECT. Mr. Mike Prokes and other Temple members met with her for lunch at her invitation May 20th. She told them she wanted to go to the Project and meet with Rev. Jones. Temple members expressed surprise that Mrs. Hunter did not make any advance confirmation of her visit, but even though they had been given no way to make advance preparations for her, she was welcome to come to Jonestown. By her own admission in the Press Democrat, 6/8/78, she was coming to "judge for herself", with the expectation of interviewing select individuals privately, apparently on demand. She states she went so far as to say she would "make my own arrangements through the Guyanese government to visit Jonestown" after acknowledging that the day before, she discovered she was not in Guyana at the invitation of the Guyanese government at all. Although she was the unexpected visitor from 5,000 miles away, no accommodation or hospitality the community of over 1,000 residents in Jonestown could offer was good enough or quick enough for this woman, and she made a "not even veiled threat" to Mr. Prokes and the other Temple members: that if she did not get what she wanted, it would go very badly for the Peoples Temple. She refused to visit the Project at all, and left the table.

Later the same day, Mrs. Hunter apologized for threatening the Temple with her statement. She was invited to Jonestown again several days later, but was hostile and refused to even discuss the matter.

MOREOVER, IT IS HARDLY LIKELY THAT MRS. HUNTER CAME TO GUYANA AS AN INDEPENDENT, FREE-LANCE JOURNALIST TRAVELLING ON HER OWN, AS THE MEDIA HAS PORTRAYED. SHE HERSELF TOLD TEMPLE MEMBERS "SEVERAL TIMES" THAT SHE HAD COME TO GUYANA TO WRITE FOR THE PRESS DEMOCRAT AND SEVERAL OTHER NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES.

NO NEWS SERVICE WAS IN GUYANA COVERING THE "STORY", YET HER TRIP TO GUYANA PROVOKED AN INSTANT MEDIA BLITZ OF FALSE PUBLICITY AND SMEARS.

Mr. Prokes summed up the feelings of the Peoples Temple in the following statement:

"We now believe even more segments of the media are involved with this monstrous conspiracy. This was another attempt to make us the prey for sensational news to destroy us because we are a non-violent socialist church with belief in brotherhood and equality.

"We have a story that is really sensational in terms of building good will between nations and a model community to live in. We will not be bullied or threatened into giving a story to anyone. We will choose those to give the opportunity to see a glimpse into what everyone who has visited has either called a model community or a paradise. If the media wants a story from us, they will have to be objective and separate themselves from this smear campaign which is entirely based on politics."





A NEWS JOURNAL DEDICATED

TO THE CAUSE OF THE PEOPLE

# The Sun Reporter

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XXV... No. 24

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN SAN FRANCISCO

Thursday, June 15, 1978

## Relatives Praise Jonestown, Guy

Recently Peoples Temple held a press conference to let the public hear about Jonestown, Guyana, from people who had just returned from a visit with their relatives at the Agricultural Project. Rev. John V. Moore, former superintendent of United Methodist Churches of Northern California, and his wife, Mrs. Barbara Moore, spent several days with their two daughters and grandson in Jonestown. They came from their home in Reno, Nev., to relate to the public the great beauty and accomplishment of the thriving community in Guyana. The Moores are not members of Peoples Temple. They visited Guyana at their own expense, and traveled to San Francisco from Reno at their own expense for the press conference.

Rev. Moore said, "I'm John Moore, pastor of First United Methodist Church in Reno, Nevada. The two words that come to my mind as I tried to reflect upon my experience (at Jonestown) were 'impressive' and 'amazing.' It beggins the mind to see that great clearing (of land) and to understand how so much could have been done in such a relatively short period of time. I think almost a thousand acres have been cleared, and most of it has already been planted with various crops."

"I had a feeling of freedom. Neither in Georgetown, with 25 or 50 people coming and going all the time with total freedom, nor at the project itself did I have any feeling that anybody was being restricted or scared or intimidated in any way."

When asked whether people told him they were happy, he responded, "It was so obvious. We talked about what they were doing, and all of them were engaged in some activities or work that was particularly important for them. We talked to anybody and everybody we wanted to, and we were everywhere, out walking around the facility. We went to the piggery, the chicken, the dairy, the cannery, the cassava mill, the nursery."

Rev. Moore went on to tell about the day care nursery, the accredited school, and a health facility that is "the best facility in that whole region in Guyana." Rev. and Mrs. Moore commented on the "beauty" of the inclusion of older people in the community life, and the library with more than 8,000 volumes, where old and young read for pleasure or do research. Mrs. Moore described both the medical and the educational services as "excellent" (one of the Moores' daughters is a nurse, the other is a teacher), and went on to speak of the project as a whole as "a community of caring and sharing with the added dimension of love. In a sense it reminds me of a New Testament community," she reflected.

word, in the love and concern for all. It is a beautiful, heroic, creative project. It is absolutely miraculous." One newscaster commented Mrs. Moore seemed very impressed and asked would she describe it as "utopian." "Yes," she answered, "it's a lovely utopia."

Other specifics were provided as well about the lifestyle and quality of life in Jonestown: "It is a cooperative... Food is provided for everyone. There's medical care for everyone, and educational opportunities for everyone. There are work needs and opportunities for the members of the community. One of the great things is the opportunity, for some of the younger people particularly, to be learning skills when that opportunity is not present here."

Mrs. Moore added that the housing is well suited to the specific needs of the residents: "It's a complete city, and one thing they do encourage is the nuclear family. You can choose to have your own home, or, if you're a single person, you may live in a dormitory, whichever you prefer. The older folks have their neat little yards and white picket-fence fences, with the opportunity to

garden, or just sit." Afterday Charles Garry, who was also present, added that when he visited, he saw them put up a cottage in one day, from the ground on up ready for occupancy.

Garry concluded with remarks about the medical center in Jonestown, headed by a young doctor who was put through medical school by Peoples Temple and who graduated with high honors. He said that he was particularly impressed

with "the senior citizens' cottage, right around the (medical) compound." Garry also looked in on by married helpers first thing every morning. "Medicine is provided free to every resident on the project, and extensive clinic work is done in the surrounding community. The medical compound is something you have never seen, and you probably won't see it anywhere else. It's almost a miracle."

AKA #2  
PT-Exhibits

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AFFIDAVIT OF DEBORAH LAYTON BLAKEY  
RE THE THREAT AND POSSIBILITY OF ~~REDACTED~~  
BY MEMBERS OF THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE

I, DEBORAH LAYTON BLAKEY, declare the following under penalty of perjury:

1. The purpose of this affidavit is to call to the attention of the United States government the existence of a situation which threatens the lives of United States citizens living in Jonestown, Guyana.

2. From August, 1971 until May 13, 1978, I was a member of the People's Temple. For a substantial period of time prior to my departure for Guyana in December, 1977, I held the position of Financial Secretary of the People's Temple.

3. I was 18 years old when I joined the People's Temple. I had grown up in affluent circumstances in the permissive atmosphere of Berkeley, California. By joining the People's Temple, I hoped to help others and in the process to bring structure and self-discipline to my own life.

4. During the years I was a member of the People's Temple, I watched the organization depart with increasing frequency from its professed dedication to social change and participatory democracy. The Rev. Jim Jones gradually assumed a tyrannical hold over the lives of Temple members.

5. Any disagreement with his dictates came to be regarded as "treason". The Rev. Jones labelled any person  
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who left the organization a "traitor" and "fair game". He steadfastly and convincingly maintained that the punishment for defection was death. The fact that severe corporal punishment was frequently administered to Temple members gave the threats a frightening air of reality.

6. The Rev. Jones saw himself as the center of a conspiracy. The identity of the conspirators changed from day to day along with his erratic world vision. He induced the fear in others that, through their contact with him, they had become targets of the conspiracy. He convinced black Temple members that if they did not follow him to Guyana, they would be put into concentration camps and killed. White members were instilled with the belief that their names appeared on a secret list of enemies of the state that was kept by the C.I.A. and that they would be tracked down, tortured, imprisoned, and subsequently killed if they did not flee to Guyana.

7. Frequently, at Temple meetings, Rev. Jones would talk non-stop for hours. At various times, he claimed that he was the reincarnation of either Lenin, Jesus Christ, or one of a variety of other religious or political figures. He claimed that he had divine powers and could heal the sick. He stated that he had extrasensory perception and could tell what everyone was thinking. He said that he had powerful connections the world over, including the Mafia, Idi Amin, and the Soviet government.

8. When I first joined the Temple, Rev. Jones

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seemed to make clear distinctions between fantasy and reality. I believed that most of the time when he said irrational things, he was aware that they were irrational, but that they served as a tool of his leadership. His theory was that the end justified the means. At other times, he appeared to be deluded by a paranoid vision of the world. He would not sleep for days at a time and talk compulsively about the conspiracies against him. However, as time went on, he appeared to become genuinely irrational.

9. Rev. Jones insisted that Temple members work long hours and completely give up all semblance of a personal life. Proof of loyalty to Jones was confirmed by actions showing that a member had given up everything, even basic necessities. The most loyal were in the worst physical condition. Dark circles under one's eyes or extreme loss of weight were considered signs of loyalty.

10. The primary emotions I came to experience were exhaustion and fear. I knew that Rev. Jones was in some sense "sick", but that did not make me any less afraid of him.

11. Rev. Jones fled the United States in June, 1977 amidst growing public criticism of the practices of the Temple. He informed members of the Temple that he would be imprisoned for life if he did not leave immediately.

12. Between June, 1977 and December, 1977, when I was ordered to depart for Guyana, I had access to coded radio broadcasts from Rev. Jones in Guyana to the People's

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Temple headquarters in San Francisco.

13. In September, 1977, an event which Rev. Jones viewed as a major crisis occurred. Through listening to coded radio broadcasts and conversations with other members of the Temple staff, I learned that an attorney for former Temple member Grace Stoen had arrived in Guyana, seeking the return of her son, John Victor Stoen.

14. Rev. Jones has expressed particular bitterness toward Grace Stoen. She had been Chief Counselor, a position of great responsibility within the Temple. Her personal qualities of generosity and compassion made her very popular with the membership. Her departure posed a threat to Rev. Jones' absolute control. Rev. Jones delivered a number of public tirades against her. He said that her kindness was faked and that she was a C.I.A. agent. He swore that he would never return her son to her.

15. I am informed that Rev. Jones believed that he would be able to stop Timothy Stoen, husband of Grace Stoen and father of John Victor Stoen, from speaking against the Temple as long as the child was being held in Guyana. Timothy Stoen, a former Assistant District Attorney in Mendocino and San Francisco counties, had been one of Rev. Jones' most trusted advisors. It was rumored that Stoen was critical of the use of physical force and other forms of intimidation against Temple members. I am further informed that Rev. Jones believed that a public statement by Timothy Stoen would increase the tarnish on his public image.

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16. When the Temple lost track of Timothy Stoen, I was assigned to track him down and offer him a large sum of money in return for his silence. Initially, I was to offer him \$5,000. I was authorized to pay him up to \$10,000. I was not able to locate him and did not see him again until on or about October 6, 1977. On that date, the Temple received information that he would be joining Grace in a San Francisco Superior Court action to determine the custody of John. I was one of a group of Temple members assigned to meet him outside the court and attempt to intimidate him to prevent him from going inside.

17. The September, 1977 crisis concerning John Stoen reached major proportions. The radio messages from Guyana were frenzied and hysterical. One morning, Terry J. Buford, public relations advisor to Rev. Jones, and myself were instructed to place a telephone call to a high-ranking Guyanese official who was visiting the United States and deliver the following threat: unless the government of Guyana took immediate steps to stall the Guyanese court action regarding John Stoen's custody, the entire population of Jonestown would extinguish itself in a mass suicide by 5:30 p.m. that day. I was later informed that Temple members in Guyana placed similar calls to other Guyanese officials.

18. We later received radio communication to the effect that the court case had been stalled and that the suicide threat was called off.

19. I arrived in Guyana in December, 1977. I

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spent a week in Georgetown and then, pursuant to orders, traveled to Jonestown.

20. Conditions at Jonestown were even worse than I had feared they would be. The settlement was swarming with armed guards. No one was permitted to leave unless on a special assignment and these assignments were given only to the most trusted. We were allowed to associate with Guyanese people only while on a "mission".

21. The vast majority of the Temple members were required to work in the fields from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. six days per week and on Sunday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. We were allowed one hour for lunch. Most of this hour was spent walking back to lunch and standing in line for our food. Taking any other breaks during the workday was severely frowned upon.

22. The food was woefully inadequate. There was rice for breakfast, rice water soup for lunch, and rice and beans for dinner. On Sunday, we each received an egg and a cookie. Two or three times a week we had vegetables. Some very weak and elderly members received one egg per day. However, the food did improve markedly on the few occasions when there were outside visitors.

23. In contrast, Rev. Jones, claiming problems with his blood sugar, dined separately and ate meat regularly. He had his own refrigerator which was stocked with food. The two women with whom he resided, Maria Katsaris and Carolyn Layton, and the two small boys who lived with him,



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Kimo Prokes and John Stoen, dined with the membership.

However, they were in much better physical shape than everyone else since they were also allowed to eat the food in Rev. Jones' refrigerator.

24. In February, 1978, conditions had become so bad that half of Jonestown was ill with severe diarrhea and high fevers. I was seriously ill for two weeks. Like most of the other sick people, I was not given any nourishing foods to help recover. I was given water and a tea drink until I was well enough to return to the basic rice and beans diet.

25. As the former financial secretary, I was aware that the Temple received over \$65,000 in Social Security checks per month. It made me angry to see that only a fraction of the income of the senior citizens in the care of the Temple was being used for their benefit. Some of the money was being used to build a settlement that would earn Rev. Jones the place in history with which he was so obsessed. The balance was being held in "reserve". Although I felt terrible about what was happening, I was afraid to say anything because I knew that anyone with a differing opinion gained the wrath of Jones and other members.

26. Rev. Jones' thoughts were made known to the population of Jonestown by means of broadcasts over the loudspeaker system. He broadcast an average of six hours per day. When the Reverend was particularly agitated, he would broadcast for hours on end. He would talk on and on

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while we worked in the fields or tried to sleep. In addition to the daily broadcasts, there were marathon meetings six nights per week.

27. The tenor of the broadcasts revealed that Rev. Jones' paranoia had reached an all-time high. He was irate at the light in which he had been portrayed by the media. He felt that as a consequence of having been ridiculed and maligned, he would be denied a place in history. His obsession with his place in history was maniacal. When pondering the loss of what he considered his rightful place in history, he would grow despondent and say that all was lost.

28. Visitors were infrequently permitted access to Jonestown. The entire community was required to put on a performance when a visitor arrived. Before the visitor arrived, Rev. Jones would instruct us on the image we were to project. The workday would be shortened. The food would be better. Sometimes there would be music and dancing. Aside from these performances, there was little joy or hope in any of our lives. An air of despondency prevailed.

29. There was constant talk of death. In the early days of the People's Temple, general rhetoric about dying for principles was sometimes heard. In Jonestown, the concept of mass suicide for socialism arose. Because our lives were so wretched anyway and because we were so afraid to contradict Rev. Jones, the concept was not challenged.

30. An event which transpired shortly after I

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reached Jonestown convinced me that Rev. Jones had sufficient control over the minds of the residents that it would be possible for him to effect a mass suicide.

31. At least once a week, Rev. Jones would declare a "white night", or state of emergency. The entire population of Jonestown would be awakened by blaring sirens. Designated persons, approximately fifty in number, would arm themselves with rifles, move from cabin to cabin, and make certain that all members were responding. A mass meeting would ensue. Frequently during these crises, we would be told that the jungle was swarming with mercenaries and that death could be expected at any minute.

32. During one "white night", we were informed that our situation had become hopeless and that the only course of action open to us was a mass suicide for the glory of socialism. We were told that we would be tortured by mercenaries if we were taken alive. Everyone, including the children, was told to line up. As we passed through the line, we were given a small glass of red liquid to drink. We were told that the liquid contained poison and that we would die within 45 minutes. We all did as we were told. When the time came when we should have dropped dead, Rev. Jones explained that the poison was not real and that we had just been through a loyalty test. He warned us that the time was not far off when it would become necessary for us to die by our own hands.

33. Life at Jonestown was so miserable and the

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physical pain of exhaustion was so great that this event was not traumatic for me. I had become indifferent as to whether I lived or died.

34. During another "white night", I watched Carolyn Layton, my former sister-in-law, give sleeping pills to two young children in her care, John Victor Stoen and Kimo Prokes, her own son. Carolyn said to me that Rev. Jones had told her that everyone was going to have to die that night. She said that she would probably have to shoot John and Kimo and that it would be easier for them if she did it while they were asleep.

35. In April, 1978, I was reassigned to Georgetown. I became determined to escape or die trying. I surreptitiously contacted my sister, who wired me a plane ticket. After I received the ticket, I sought the assistance of the United States Embassy in arranging to leave Guyana. Rev. Jones had instructed us that he had a spy working in the United States Embassy and that he would know if anyone went to the embassy for help. For this reason, I was very fearful.

36. I am most grateful to the United States government and Richard McCoy and Daniel Weber, in particular, for the assistance they gave me. However, the efforts made to investigate conditions in Jonestown are inadequate for the following reasons. The infrequent visits are always announced and arranged. Acting in fear for their lives, Temple members respond as they are told. The members appear

to speak freely to American representatives, but in fact they are drilled thoroughly prior to each visit on what questions to expect and how to respond. Members are afraid of retaliation if they speak their true feelings in public.

37. On behalf of the population of Jonestown, I urge that the United States Government take adequate steps to safeguard their rights. I believe that their lives are in danger.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, except as to those matters stated on information and belief and as to those I believe them to be true.

Executed this \_\_\_\_ day of June, 1978 at San Francisco, California.

DEBORAH LAYTON BLAKEY

LAW OFFICE OF *PT 30/3 SCS*  
JEFFREY A. HAYS  
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433 TURK STREET  
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(415) 775-3900

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JUNE 15, 1978

DOUGLAS J. BENNET, JR.  
Assistant Secretary for  
Congressional Relations  
Department of State  
Washington, D.C. 20520

FILE

Dear Mr. Bennet:

I am enclosing an affidavit signed under penalty of perjury  
by Deborah Blakey. Ms. Blakey recently escaped from the  
People's Temple and is extremely concerned for the welfare  
of not only John Victor Stoen, but also the remaining  
U.S. citizens in Jonestown.

She points out that while the State Dept. has made some  
contact with American citizens living in Jonestown, its  
investigation to uncover the actual conditions is inadequate.  
I continue to regard this matter as extremely important, and  
again request your assistance in reaching some solution.  
The Guyanese judge has now had a habeas corpus matter under  
submission for nearly five months. This is wholly unacceptable  
under any law with which I am familiar, and I think without  
question constitutes "excessive delay". Further, referring to  
paragraph (17) of the enclosed affidavit, Ms. Blakey makes it  
clear that the delay is due to Mr. Jim Jones' threats of mass  
suicide.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/NR	
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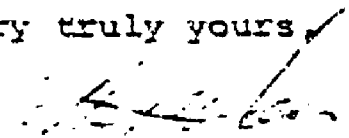
Page Two

June 15, 1978

I have been advised that the State Dept.'s legal advisor would be in contact with me regarding an interpretation of international law governing this case. Our position was enclosed with our letter of March 16, 1978. As of yet, I have received no response.

I look forward to your immediate attention to this most critical situation.

Very truly yours,

  
JEFFREY A. HAAS

JAH/kh

Enclosure

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AFFIDAVIT OF DEBORAH LAYTON BLAKEY  
RE THE THREAT AND POSSIBILITY OF MASS SUICIDE  
BY MEMBERS OF THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE

I, DEBORAH LAYTON BLAKEY, declare the following  
Under penalty of perjury:

1. The purpose of this affidavit is to call to the attention of the United States government the existence of a situation which threatens the lives of United States citizens living in Jonestown, Guyana.

2. From August, 1971 until May 13, 1978, I was a member of the People's Temple. For a substantial period of time prior to my departure for Guyana in December, 1977, I held the position of Financial Secretary of the People's Temple.

3. I was 18 years old when I joined the People's Temple. I had grown up in affluent circumstances in the permissive atmosphere of Berkeley, California. By joining the People's Temple, I hoped to help others and in the process to bring structure and self-discipline to my own life.

4. During the years I was a member of the People's Temple, I watched the organization depart with increasing frequency from its professed dedication to social change and participatory democracy. The Rev. Jim Jones gradually assumed a tyrannical hold over the lives of Temple members.

5. Any disagreement with his dictates came to be considered as "treason". The Rev. Jones labelled me, Deborah

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who left the organization a "traitor" and "fair game". He steadfastly and convincingly maintained that the punishment for defection was death. The fact that severe corporal punishment was frequently administered to Temple members gave the threats a frightening air of reality.

6. The Rev. Jones saw himself as the center of a conspiracy. The identity of the conspirators changed from day to day along with his erratic world vision. He induced the fear in others that, through their contact with him, they had become targets of the conspiracy. He convinced black Temple members that if they did not follow him to Guyana, they would be put into concentration camps and killed. White members were instilled with the belief that their names appeared on a secret list of enemies of the state that was kept by the C.I.A. and that they would be tracked down, tortured, imprisoned, and subsequently killed if they did not flee to Guyana.

7. Frequently, at Temple meetings, Rev. Jones would talk non-stop for hours. At various times, he claimed that he was the reincarnation of either Lenin, Jesus Christ, or one of a variety of other religious or political figures. He claimed that he had divine powers and could heal the sick. He stated that he had extrasensory perception and could tell what everyone was thinking. He said that he had powerful connections the world over, including the Mafia, Idi Amin, and the Soviet government.

8. When I first joined the Temple, Rev. Jones

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seemed to make clear distinctions between fantasy and reality. I believed that most of the time when he said irrational things, he was aware that they were irrational, but that they served as a tool of his leadership. His theory was that the end justified the means. At other times, he appeared to be deluded by a paranoid vision of the world. He would not sleep for days at a time and talk compulsively about the conspiracies against him. However, as time went on, he appeared to become genuinely irrational.

9. Rev. Jones insisted that Temple members work long hours and completely give up all semblance of a personal life. Proof of loyalty to Jones was confirmed by actions showing that a member had given up everything, even basic necessities. The most loyal were in the worst physical condition. Dark circles under one's eyes or extreme loss of weight were considered signs of loyalty.

10. The primary emotions I came to experience were exhaustion and fear. I knew that Rev. Jones was in some sense "sick", but that did not make me any less afraid of him.

11. Rev. Jones fled the United States in June, 1977 against growing public criticism of the practices of the Temple. He informed members of the Temple that he would be imprisoned for life if he did not leave immediately.

12. Between June, 1977 and December, 1977, when I was ordered to depart for Guyana, I had access to coded radio broadcasts from Rev. Jones in Guyana to the People's

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Temple headquarters in San Francisco.

13. In September, 1977, an event which Rev. Jones viewed as a major crisis occurred. Through listening to coded radio broadcasts and conversations with other members of the Temple staff, I learned that an attorney for former Temple member Grace Stoen had arrived in Guyana, seeking the return of her son, John Victor Stoen.

14. Rev. Jones has expressed particular bitterness toward Grace Stoen. She had been Chief Counselor, a position of great responsibility within the Temple. Her personal qualities of generosity and compassion made her very popular with the membership. Her departure posed a threat to Rev. Jones' absolute control. Rev. Jones delivered a number of public tirades against her. He said that her kindness was faked and that she was a C.I.A. agent. He swore that he would never return her son to her.

15. I am informed that Rev. Jones believed that he would be able to stop Timothy Stoen, husband of Grace Stoen and father of John Victor Stoen, from sneaking against the Temple as long as the child was being held in Guyana.

Timothy Stoen, a former Assistant District Attorney in Mendocino and San Francisco counties, had been one of Rev. Jones' most trusted advisors. It was rumored that Stoen was critical of the use of physical force and other forms of intimidation against Temple members. I am further informed

that Rev. Jones believed that a public statement by Timothy Stoen would increase the tarnish on his public image.

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16. When the Temple lost track of Timothy Stoen, I was assigned to track him down and offer him a large sum of money in return for his silence. Initially, I was to offer him \$5,000. I was authorized to pay him up to \$10,000. I was not able to locate him and did not see him again until on or about October 6, 1977. On that date, the Temple received information that he would be joining Grace in a San Francisco Superior Court action to determine the custody of John. I was one of a group of Temple members assigned to meet him outside the court and attempt to intimidate him to prevent him from going inside.

17. The September, 1977 crisis concerning John Stoen reached major proportions. The radio messages from Guyana were frenzied and hysterical. One morning, Terry J. Sanford, public relations advisor to Rev. Jones, and myself were instructed to place a telephone call to a high-ranking Guyanese official who was visiting the United States and deliver the following threat: unless the government of Guyana took immediate steps to stall the Guyanese court action regarding John Stoen's custody, the entire population of Jonestown would extinguish itself in a mass suicide by 5:00 p.m. that day. I was later informed that Temple members in Guyana placed similar calls to other Guyanese officials.

18. We later received radio communication to the effect that the court case had been stalled and that the suicide threat was called off.

19. I arrived in Guyana in December, 1977.

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spent a week in Georgetown and then, pursuant to orders, traveled to Jonestown.

20. Conditions at Jonestown were even worse than I had feared they would be. The settlement was swarming with armed guards. No one was permitted to leave unless on a special assignment and these assignments were given only to the most trusted. We were allowed to associate with Guyanese people only while on a "mission".

21. The vast majority of the Temple members were required to work in the fields from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. six days per week and on Sunday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. We were allowed one hour for lunch. Most of this hour was spent walking back to lunch and standing in line for our food. Taking any other breaks during the workday was severely frowned upon.

22. The food was woefully inadequate. There was rice for breakfast, rice water soup for lunch, and rice and beans for dinner. On Sunday, we each received an egg and a cookie. Two or three times a week we had vegetables. Some very weak and elderly members received one egg per day. However, the food did improve markedly on the few occasions when there were outside visitors.

23. In contrast, Rev. Jones, claiming problems with his blood sugar, dined separately and ate most regularly. He had his own refrigerator which was stocked with food. The two women with whom he resided, Maria Katsaris and Carolyn Layton, and the two small boys who lived with him,

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Rimo Prokes and John Stoen, dined with the membership. However, they were in much better physical shape than everyone else since they were also allowed to eat the food in Rev. Jones' refrigerator.

24. In February, 1978, conditions had become so bad that half of Jonestown was ill with severe diarrhea and high fevers. I was seriously ill for two weeks. Like most of the other sick people, I was not given any nourishing foods to help recover. I was given water and a tea drink until I was well enough to return to the basic rice and beans diet.

25. As the former financial secretary, I was aware that the Temple received over \$65,000 in Social Security checks per month. It made me angry to see that only a fraction of the income of the senior citizens in the care of the Temple was being used for their benefit. Some of the money was being used to build a settlement that would earn Rev. Jones the place in history with which he was so obsessed. The balance was being held in "reserve". Although I felt terrible about what was happening, I was afraid to say anything because I knew that anyone with a differing opinion earned the wrath of Jones and other members.

26. Rev. Jones' thoughts were made known to the population of Jonestown by means of broadcasts over the loudspeaker system. He broadcast an average of six hours per day. When the Reverend was particularly agitated, he would broadcast for hours on end. He would talk on and on

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while we worked in the fields or tried to sleep. In addition to the daily broadcasts, there were marathon meetings six nights per week.

27. The tenor of the broadcasts revealed that Rev. Jones' paranoia had reached an all-time high. He was irate at the light in which he had been portrayed by the media. He felt that as a consequence of having been ridiculed and maligned, he would be denied a place in history. His obsession with his place in history was manic. When pondering the loss of what he considered his rightful place in history, he would grow despondent and say that all was lost.

28. Visitors were infrequently permitted access to Jonestown. The entire community was required to put on a performance when a visitor arrived. Before the visitor arrived, Rev. Jones would instruct us on the image we were to project. The workday would be shortened. The food would be better. Sometimes there would be music and dancing. Aside from these performances, there was little joy or hope in any of our lives. An air of despondency prevailed.

29. There was constant talk of death. In the early days of the People's Temple, general rhetoric about dying for principles was sometimes heard. In Jonestown, the concept of mass suicide for socialism arose. Because our lives were so wretched anyway and because we were so afraid to contradict Rev. Jones, the concept was not challenged.

30. An event which transpired shortly after I

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reached Jonestown convinced me that Rev. Jones had sufficient control over the minds of the residents that it would be possible for him to effect a mass suicide.

31. At least once a week, Rev. Jones would declare a "white night", or state of emergency. The entire population of Jonestown would be awakened by blaring sirens. Designated persons, approximately fifty in number, would arm themselves with rifles, move from cabin to cabin, and make certain that all members were responding. A mass meeting would ensue. Frequently during these crises, we would be told that the jungle was swarming with mercenaries and that death could be expected at any minute.

32. During one "white night", we were informed that our situation had become hopeless and that the only course of action open to us was a mass suicide for the glory of socialism. We were told that we would be tortured by mercenaries if we were taken alive. Everyone, including the children, was told to line up. As we passed through the line, we were given a small glass of red liquid to drink. We were told that the liquid contained poison and that we would die within 45 minutes. We all did as we were told. When the time came when we should have dropped dead, Rev. Jones explained that the poison was not real and that we had just been through a loyalty test. He warned us that the time was not far off when it would become necessary for us to die by our own hands.

33. Life at Jonestown was a miserable and the

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physical pain of exhaustion was so great that this event was not traumatic for me. I had become indifferent as to whether I lived or died.

34. During another "white night", I watched Carolyn Layton, my former sister-in-law, give sleeping pills to two young children in her care, John Victor Stoen and Kimo Prokes, her own son. Carolyn said to me that Rev. Jones had told her that everyone was going to have to die that night. She said that she would probably have to shoot John and Kimo and that it would be easier for them if she did it while they were asleep.

35. In April, 1978, I was reassigned to Georgetown. I became determined to escape or die trying. I surreptitiously contacted my sister, who wired me a plane ticket. After I received the ticket, I sought the assistance of the United States Embassy in arranging to leave Guyana. Rev. Jones had instructed us that he had a spy working in the United States Embassy and that he would know if anyone went to the embassy for help. For this reason, I was very fearful.

36. I am most grateful to the United States government and Richard McCoy and Daniel Weber, in particular, for the assistance they gave me. However, the efforts made to investigate conditions in Jonestown are inadequate for the following reasons. The infrequent visits are always announced and arranged. Acting in fear for their lives, the members respond as they are told. The members appear

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to speak freely to American representatives, but in fact they are drilled thoroughly prior to each visit on what questions to expect and how to respond. Members are afraid of retaliation if they speak their true feelings in public.

37. On behalf of the population of Jonestown, I urge that the United States Government take adequate steps to safeguard their rights. I believe that their lives are in danger.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, except as to those matters stated on information and belief and as to those I believe them to be true.

Executed this \_\_\_\_ day of June, 1978 at San Francisco, California.

DEBORAH DAYTON BLAKEY

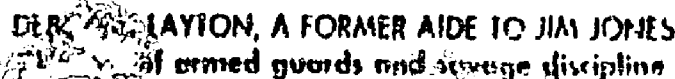
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According to Lorton, Jones has become a "pariah" among with "realists" in his own ranks who question his on-the-job hard work and with the outside world that has publicly criticized his orders.

Lytle, who was in charge of church finances, here before joining the German colony last December, said Jones' accounts being accounts in Europe, America and

Percentage of Negro



The trip is strictly escorted by two platoons of the "International armed guards, men and women members of 'secretly' abolition teams" who have access to SAM and SAM rifles. The first is and a female member of the team.

James has turned the work fields with headwaters and lakes stretched out for six miles, the whole of the world's greatest.

# Peoples Temple

Ukiah.

Layton described Jones as a "patron" who demands the complete loyalty of his followers by making them pledge "suicide for the glory of socialism."

On one occasion, she said, Jones tested the loyalty of the group by ordering everyone to drink a "Brown fluid" which he told them was a pesticide.

After describing the bitter poison, Layton said, everyone was to drink large quantities of an alcoholic beverage to induce drowsiness before being shot by Jones' guards.

Jones, she said, called off the shots after everyone drank the poison.

After she arrived at the sprawling agricultural mission in Georgetown, Layton said, she was told to work in the fields for the first six or so, from 1 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day. "The sun is so hot," she says, "you get blisters on your body."

While she tended the temple's flourishing vegetable crop, Jim Jones' voice blared out over a speaker system that encircled the fields. There were days, she said, when he would speak for six hours at a time.

Jones, she said, would read his own version of the news, which almost invariably included stories of government corruption and CIA plots in the United States. He would ramble on and on with socialist and communist theory, claiming Russia and Cuba are "the spiritual motherland."

On several occasions, Layton said, Jones talked about his deep admiration for Ugandan dictator Idi Amin.

In addition to claiming he is God, Layton said, Jones tells his follow-

ers he "is a reincarnation of Lenin."

After spending a month tending the fields, Layton was transferred to the temple's ham radio shack, where she was trained in the secret codes used for communications with the 200 or so followers still in San Francisco.

Later, Jones placed her in the trusted position of temple bookkeeper, the same position she held at the temple in San Francisco.

Layton claims the books show Jones has "at least \$12 million" stashed away in bank accounts in Europe, Guyana and California.

Much of the income that supports his operation in Guyana, she says, comes in the form of Social Security checks that are mailed to elderly residents there. Those checks, which are immediately signed over to the temple, total more than \$25,000 per month, she said.

Layton said she had no intention of ever going to Guyana. When temple officials assured her she would be allowed to come home after two months, however, she reluctantly agreed.

After a week in Georgetown, she was taken to Jonestown, the Guyanese government's name for the remote colony.

"When I got to Jonestown and saw the armed guards," she says, "I knew I didn't want to stay."

Two rings of 50 armed guards, both men and women, form "security alert teams" that surround the compound, she claims. The guards, she said, have access to an arsenal that includes between 200 and 300 rifles, 50 pistols and a home-made bazooka.

Layton describes life in the compound as "so structured you had no

freedom to yourself. No time to be alone."

Residents there survive on a diet consisting primarily of rice and vegetables.

Interpersonal relationships are forbidden, she claims, without prior approval of "the relations committee," a group of loyal followers who must first approve such arrangements as a three-month trial break.

During those three months, the couple is allowed to talk together, but must not show any physical affection. After that period, Layton says, the committee reviews the relationship and decides whether the couple will be allowed to live together for six months.

Living together at Jonestown, she adds, is no honeymoon experience. Once approved, the couples are moved into cabins that contain 14 bunkbeds each. Each couple is given one bunkbed.

The regimented lifestyle and the brutalities would always be temporarily suspended, she says, when an outside visitor was at the compound.

"When Charles (Garry Jones' attorney) was in Guyana," she said, "he was given the best cabin there. Everything changed. The food was better. There was dancing and partying."

After two months in Jonestown, Layton asked temple officials to return her to San Francisco, but they refused. The officials told her there is a "huge CIA conspiracy" against Jim Jones. "They told me I would be arrested when I arrived in the United States and questioned," she said, "and (that) if I didn't give information to the CIA, I would be tortured."

The opportunity to escape finally

came in May, when she was sent on temple business to Georgetown. She escaped from the group and turned herself in to American consular officials, who granted her an emergency passport and agreed to postpone her departure from Guyana. She flew to New York on May 13 and is now living in San Francisco.

Temple officials continue to deny the charges against the church and the Rev. Jones.

"We absolutely refute all the charges," said Tim Clancy, a church spokesman in San Francisco. "This just makes us believe more than ever that there is a conspiracy against the church."

# Escapee tells of suicide plan at Rev. Jones outpost

San Francisco, Jan. 25 (AP) — A group of escapees from the Peoples Temple in Guyana, South America, claims the 1,100 U.S. citizens residing there are prepared to commit mass suicide on the orders of their leader, the Rev. Jim Jones.

Deborah Layton, 28, a graduate of Santa Clara Junior College who joined the controversial church when it was headquartered in Redwood Valley, but the Peoples Temple that Jones has set up in South America for internationalizing the population of the jungle outpost. It should stay under attack.

There was a group assigned to take care of the children," she

the other group continued to take care of those who were not under Jones' control. Everybody who was asked to kill anybody had someone assigned to them as well."

There was a unit to Guyana to assist Jones' group in a country with little with Jones in September. Layton said, Jones ordered her and other people who to the Peoples Temple.

Jones, she said, ordered her to kill the children. "I didn't want to do it," she said. "I didn't want to do it." She said she was for

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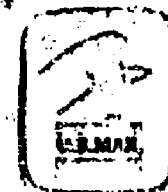
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 ROBERT L. BISHOP, JR., M.D.  
 WILLIAM F. BISHOP, JR., M.D.  
 GEORGE F. BISHOP, JR., M.D.

**JAMES A. GARDNER, JR.**  
CHIEF OF POLICE

1970 JUN 24 House of Representatives  
20515

June 16, 1978

**ACTION**  
is ordered to

ARA

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Subcommittee has received the enclosed correspondence which alleges that certain U.S. citizens are being held in Guyana against their will. We would appreciate receiving a prompt report on this situation.

Sincerely,

*Dante B. Fascell*  
Dante B. Fascell  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on  
International Operations

DBF:MF00

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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From:  
Richard C. Wagner

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THIS NIGHTMARE IS TAKING PLACE RIGHT NOW

79

WILL YOU HELP US FREE OUR FAMILIES?

#### WHO ARE THE "CONCERNED RELATIVES"?

We are individuals having only one bond in common: relatives isolated in the "Jonestown" jungle encampment in Guyana, South America, under the total control of one man, Jim Jones. We espouse no political or religious viewpoint. Our only concern is for our families. We are bewildered and frightened by what is being done to them. Their human rights are being violated and the fabric of our family life is being torn apart.

#### WHAT SPECIFICALLY IS BEING DONE TO OUR RELATIVES?

These are the sad and terrible facts:

- \* All decisions in Jonestown are made by one man, Jim Jones. There is no democracy. There is no dissent permitted.
- \* Guards are stationed around Jonestown to prevent anyone leaving unless given express permission by the leader.
- \* Passports and monies are confiscated by Jones upon the arrival of his members in Guyana so that they cannot be "cleared" by the Immigration Officials to leave Guyana.
- \* Long distance telephone calls to the United States are prohibited as part of Jones' campaign that all family ties be cut in favor of his "cause".
- \* All incoming and outgoing mail is censored.
- \* Barbed wire fences have been built to prevent escape.
- \* Closed circuit television has been installed for internal surveillance.
- \* No one is permitted to leave Jonestown except on business for the "cause" and then only in the company of other residents who are required to spy and report back to Jones.
- \* Each resident is told that if he or she tries to leave the Peoples Temple organization, they will be killed and their bodies left in the jungle.

JONESTOWN  
CONCENTRATION CAMP  
GUYANA, SOUTH AMERICA

-Over-

\* Their leader, Jim Jones, says that a "unanimous vote" of the 1,000 residents of Jonestown was taken to put "our lives on the line".

**WHAT ARE WE DEMONSTRATING?**

Because we are desperate and don't know what else to do. Neither the Guyana government or the United States government thus far has been willing to intervene. Jones simply ignores court orders.

We want our loved ones to be allowed to live in freedom. There appears to be only one way to save our families -- to publicize the truth.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP US?

**Three Things:**

- \* Pray for the safe return of our loved ones soon, even if only for a one-week home visit at our expense, return fare being guaranteed, so we can make sure they have free will to choose.
- \* Write to the two officials with power to force Jones to respect human rights:

Honorable Forbes Burnham  
Prime Minister of the Cooperative  
Republic of Guyana  
Public Buildings  
Georgetown, Guyana  
South America

add

Honorable Cyrus Vance  
Secretary of State of the United States  
2201 C Street  
N.W. Washington, D.C. 20520

- \* Give as you feel led to help defray expenses, which are considerable.  
Send your check to:

CONCERNED RELATIVES  
Post Office Box 534  
Lafayette, California 94549

**THANK YOU FROM THE DEPTHS OF OUR HEARTS!**

10-10-68

For further information, contact:

By mail:

Concerned Relatives  
c/o Post Office Box 654  
Lafayette, CA 94549

By telephone:

Steven A. Katsaris (707) 462-8721  
Sherwin Harris (415) 284-5541  
Timothy O. Stoen (415) 391-5020

To: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Date: April 17, 1978

Re: "CONCERNED RELATIVES": ACCUSATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS COMMITTED BY REV. JAMES WARREN JONES AGAINST OUR CHILDREN AND RELATIVES AT THE PEOPLES TEMPLE JUNGLE ENCAMPMENT IN GUYANA, SOUTH AMERICA

Dear Sir or Madam:

The documents you are about to read may strike you as simply incredible, but, sadly, they speak the truth. They were served on Peoples Temple officials in San Francisco on April 11, 1978. They prove, by sworn notarized affidavits, the unbelievable acts of Jim Jones which violate the laws and abuse the human rights of our family members. They quote the particular articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948), and of the Constitution of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, being violated.

As you read the affidavit of Steven Katsaris, ask yourself how you would react if Jones did to your daughter what he did to Maria Katsaris. As you read the Peoples Temple letter of March 14 about a "decision" to die, ask yourself how secure you would feel if your loved one was totally dependent on the mentality of its author. As you read Zulanda Crawford's affidavit about what Jones threatens to do to people who attempt to leave Jonestown, ask yourself if it is ethical not to act to stop such a man.

We are just beginning in this group effort to save our loved ones. Other relatives, previously terrified, are now joining us. We do not want to destroy Jim Jones or Peoples Temple. All we want is for our relatives to live in freedom, not a concentration camp. If you agree, won't you do what you can to intervene and help us?

Thank you from the depths of our hearts.

Sincerely,

*Richard C. Wagner*

Richard C. Wagner

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ACCUSATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BY REV.  
JAMES WARREN JONES AGAINST OUR CHILDREN AND  
RELATIVES AT THE PEOPLES TEMPLE JUNGLE ENCAMP-  
MENT IN GUYANA, SOUTH AMERICA

TO: REV. JAMES WARREN JONES

From: Parents and relatives of children and adults under your  
control at "Jonestown", Northwest District, Cooperative  
Republic of Guyana

Date: April 11, 1978

I. INTRODUCTION

We, the undersigned, are the grief-stricken parents and  
relatives of the hereinafter-designated persons you arranged  
to be transported to Guyana, South America, at a jungle encamp-  
ment you call "Jonestown". We are advised there are no tele-  
phones or exit roads from Jonestown, and that you now have more  
than 1,000 U.S. citizens living with you there.

We have allowed nine months to pass since you left the  
United States in June 1977. Although certain of us knew it  
would do no good to wait before making a group protest, others  
of us were willing to wait to see whether you would in fact  
respect the fundamental freedoms and dignity of our children  
and family members in Jonestown. Sadly, your conduct over the  
past year has shown such a flagrant and cruel disregard for  
human rights that we have no choice as responsible people but  
to take this public accusation and to demand the immediate  
elimination of these outrageous abuses.

## II. SUMMARY OF VIOLATIONS

We hereby accuse you, Jim Jones, of the following acts violating the human rights of our family members:

1. Making the following threat calculated to cause alarm for the lives of our relatives: "I can say without hesitation that we are devoted to a decision that it is better even to die than to be constantly harassed from one continent to the next."
2. Employing physical intimidation and psychological coercion as part of a mind-programming campaign aimed at destroying family ties, discrediting belief in God, and causing contempt for the United States of America.
3. Prohibiting our relatives from leaving Guyana by confiscating their passports and money and by stationing guards around Jonestown to prevent anyone escaping.
4. Depriving them of their right to privacy, free speech, and freedom of association by:
  - a. Prohibiting telephone calls;
  - b. Prohibiting individual contacts with "outsiders";
  - c. Censoring all incoming and outgoing mail;
  - d. Extorting silence from relatives in the U.S. by threats to stop all communication;
  - e. Preventing our children from seeing us when we travel to Guyana.

The aforesaid conduct by you is a violation of the human rights of our loved ones as guaranteed by Article 35 of the United Nations Charter, and as defined by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (adopted by the U. N. General Assembly on December 10, 1948). It is also a violation of their constitutional

rights as guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, and as guaranteed by the Constitution of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana (adopted May 26, 1966).

### III. THREAT OF DECISION TO DIE

On March 14, 1978 you, Jim Jones, caused to be written on Peoples Temple stationery a letter "to all U.S. Senators and Members of Congress" complaining of alleged "bureaucratic harassment" and ending with this chilling threat:

"[I]t is equally evident that people cannot forever be continually harassed and beleaguered by such tactics without seeking alternatives that have been presented. I can say without hesitation that we are devoted to a decision that it is better even to die than to be constantly harassed from one continent to the next."

A copy of your letter is attached as Exhibit A.

We know how exact you are in choosing your words, and there is little doubt that this letter was dictated by you personally since it has been your policy over the years to dictate all letters sent to governmental officials on Temple stationery. Your letter seeks to mask, by the use of irrelevant ideological rhetoric, its real purpose, which is to divert the attention of U.S. Governmental agencies towards your abuses of human rights by putting them on the defensive.

The "1,000 U.S. citizens" you claim to have brought to Guyana include our beloved relatives who are "devoted to a decision that it is better even to die." We frankly do not know if you have become so corrupted by power that you would actually allow a collective "decision" to die, or whether your letter is simply

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a bluff designed to deter investigations into your practices. There is supporting evidence for our concern in the affidavit of Yolanda Crawford, attached hereto as Exhibit B, which shows that you have publicly stated in Guyana that you would rather have your people dead than living in the United States, and that you have solicited people to lay down their lives for your cause. You certainly have been successful in making us fearful as to your intentions.

We hereby give you the opportunity now to publicly repudiate our interpretation of your threat. If you refuse to deny the apparent meaning of your letter, we demand that you immediately answer the following questions:

1. When you refer to "a decision that it is better even to die than to be constantly harassed", has this "decision" already been made or is it to be made in the future? If made, when and where? Were our relatives consulted? Did anybody dissent? By what moral or legal justification could you possibly make such a decision on behalf of minor children?

2. When you say you are "devoted" to this decision, does that mean it is irreversible? If irreversible, at what point will the alleged "harassment" have gotten so great as to make death "better"? Would it be an International Human Rights Commission investigation, or an on-premises investigation of your operations by the U. S. Government? Who besides you will decide when that point "to die" is reached?

We know your psychological coercion of the residents of Jonestown to be so "totalitarian" that nobody there, including adults,

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could possibly make such a decision to die freely and voluntarily. The evidence is that our relatives are in fact hostages, and we hereby serve notice that should any harm befall them, we will hold you and Peoples Temple church responsible and will employ every legal and diplomatic resource to bring you to justice.

#### IV. MIND-PROGRAMMING AND INTIMIDATION

The affidavit of Steven A. Katsaris, attached hereto as Exhibit C, is a personal account of his experiences in Guyana. It reveals the terrifying effect of your mind-programming on his daughter, a bright 24-year old, which has caused her to deny belief in God, to renounce family ties, and to manifest symptoms of sleep-deprivation and a serious personality change.

Yolanda Crawford's affidavit (Exhibit B) is an eye-witness account of your activities in Guyana by someone present with you. The affidavit shows that you, Jim Jones, preach there the following doctrines: a) that you are God and there is no other God, b) that the United States is the "most evil" nation in the world, c) that allegiance to your cause must replace family loyalty and that parents should be handled at a distance for the sole purposes of collecting inheritances for the cause and of getting them not to cause trouble.

The evidence also shows that you have instituted the following practices in Guyana: a) a centralized chain of command whereby all decisions of significance are to be made by you and once made, must be followed by Temple members under threat of punishment; b) the stationing of guards around Jonestown to prevent persons

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from escaping; and c) the use of degrading punishments (for example, eating hot peppers), sleep-deprivation, food-deprivation, hard labor, and other coercive techniques commonly used in mind-programming. \)

The evidence also shows that you, Jim Jones, confiscate the passports and monies of people upon their arrival in Guyana, prohibit individual contacts with "outsiders", censor incoming and outgoing mail, prohibit telephone calls by Temple members when in Georgetown, and require Temple members to travel in groups. Ms. Crawford's affidavit also shows that you have publicly threatened that anyone who tries to leave the "cause" will be killed.

The aforesaid conduct by you is a wanton violation of the human rights of our loved ones. It is also a violation of their constitutional rights. The physical intimidation is a violation of the penal codes of the United States and the Cooperative Republic of Guyana.

#### V. THE HUMAN RIGHTS BEING VIOLATED

We hereby bring to your attention, Jim Jones, the particular provisions which guarantee human rights and constitutional rights that you are violating:

1. Confiscation of Passports. Your systematic confiscation of passports and all of the monies of Temple members upon their arrival in Guyana is for the purpose of preventing them from leaving and returning to the United States. You are thereby violating Article 13, Section 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

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which reads:

"Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country."

Your conduct is also a violation of Article 14 (1) of the Constitution of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, which reads:

"No person shall be deprived of his freedom of movement, that is to say, the right to move freely throughout Guyana, ... the right to leave Guyana...."

2. Prohibiting Telephone Calls. You systematically tell all Temple members upon their arrival in Georgetown, Guyana that they are not permitted, under threat of punishment, to make any telephone calls to family members in the United States or elsewhere, your purpose being to prevent negative information being imparted to relatives in the U. S. Your additional purpose is to overcome the bonds of family which might induce a Temple member to wish to return to his home in the U. S. This conduct is a violation of Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states:

"Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."

This conduct is also a violation of Article 12 (1) of the Guyana Constitution, which reads:

"Except with his own consent, no person shall be hindered in the enjoyment of his freedom of expression, that is to say, freedom to hold opinions without interference; freedom to communicate ideas and information without interference and freedom from interference with his correspondence."

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3. Prohibiting Contacts With Outsiders. You systematically require that all Temple members, while in Georgetown, not communicate or visit with "outsiders" and not leave the communal headquarters (41 Lamaha Gardens) unless in association with other Temple members. You follow the same policy in Jonestown, enforcing your edicts with guards. Your purpose is to prevent anyone going to the U. S. Embassy and causing them to ask questions how you treat people. Your additional purpose is to discourage Temple members from being exposed to other religions or philosophies, and from viewing their lives independent of communal obligations. Your conduct is a violation of Article 20, Section 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states:

"No one may be compelled to belong to an association."

It is also a violation of Article 18 of the same Declaration, which states:

"Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance."

Your conduct is also a violation of Article 13 (1) of the Guyana Constitution, which reads:

"Except with his own consent, no person shall be hindered in the enjoyment of his freedom of assembly and association, that is to say, his right to assemble freely and associate with other persons."

4. Censoring Mail. You systematically require that all of the incoming mail and all of the outgoing mail of Temple members be censored by your staff. Your purpose is to discourage negative

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information being "leaked" to people in the U. S. and to prevent facts about the "outside" world reaching Temple members which are at variance with your "party line". This is shown by the affidavit of Ms. Crawford with respect to the Ku Klux Klan marching in the streets. Because mail is the only means of contact available to our loved ones once they are transported to Jonestown, you have thereby effectively cut off all free expression and correspondence. Your conduct is a violation of the right of our relatives to privacy, family, and correspondence under Article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states:

"No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home, or correspondence \* \* \*. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference."

Your censoring of mail is also a violation of Article 12 (1) of the Guyana Constitution, which is quoted above.

5. Extorting Silence From Relatives. You systematically require that Temple members who write to their family members in the U. S. threaten in their letters that they will stop all further communication if any criticism is made of you or Peoples Temple. For example, Donna Ponce is a 15-year old girl taken to Guyana in July 1977 without her father's knowledge and in violation of a court order requiring her to remain in California unless he gave permission. Attached hereto as Exhibit D is a letter from Donna to her grandmother which starts out saying: "Grandma, Hi! How are you doing? I hope you and everyone else are doing good". It ends as follows:

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"I am sorry to hear that you called the radio station but since you did I will not be writing you any more."

Those of us who receive letters from our relatives in Jonestown find them standardized and unresponsive, as if written by machines. But since it is all we have, these letters are very precious to us. You have placed us in the agonizing dilemma of watching helplessly while the rights of our relatives are violated or losing all contact. We have chosen, however, not to yield to your extortion, which is a violation of Article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, quoted above, and of Article 13 (1) of the Guyana Constitution, also quoted above.

6. Prohibiting Our Children From Seeing Us. Five of the parents who have signed this accusation have travelled from San Francisco some 5,000 miles in order to see their children since you took them to Guyana. The evidence is clear that you have instituted a most pernicious campaign to discredit us in our children's eyes, as can be concluded from the following experiences:

a. Steven A. Katsaris. On September 26, 1977 Steven A. Katsaris arrived in Guyana and attempted to meet with his daughter, Maria. She was prohibited from meeting with him, duress being employed by you to force her to lie to the U. S. Embassy that she did not wish to see her father because "he had molested" her. Mr. Katsaris had with him a letter from Maria inviting him and saying, "I love you & miss you." On November 3, 1977 Mr. Katsaris returned to Guyana to see his daughter, after first obtaining a promise of assistance from the Guyanese Ambassador to the United

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States. After days of waiting, Maria was allowed to see her father but only in the presence of three other Temple members. Maria gave evidence of sleep deprivation and a behavior pattern extremely hostile and different from that ever manifested before. For the details of these two visits, refer to Exhibit C.

b. Howard and Beverly Oliver. On December 19, 1977 Howard and Beverly Oliver, together with their attorney Roger Holmes, arrived in Guyana in order to see their two sons, William S. Oliver (age 17) and Bruce Howard Oliver (age 20). In July 1977 both boys had told their parents they were going to Guyana "for two weeks." The Olivers had a court order from a California Superior Court for the return of William. They also had in their possession letters from each son saying "I love you". After spending eight days without success trying to see their sons, they were told that "Jim Jones had a council meeting" and the decision was that "it was best that we did not see or talk to our sons." Attached as Exhibit E is a handwritten account of Beverly E. Oliver, together with a copy of a letter from each son.

c. Timothy and Grace Stoen. On January 4, 1978 Timothy and Grace Stoen arrived in Guyana in connection with habeas corpus proceedings commenced the preceding August. Although they had a California Superior Court order which ordered you to deliver their six-year old child, John Victor Stoen, to them, you refused to let either parent even see their child. The evidence also shows that you have falsely accused Grace as being "unfit" (see Katsaris affidavit) and that on January 18, 1978 three Temple

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members surrounded Timothy at Timehri Airport in Guyana and threatened his and Grace's lives if they did not drop legal proceedings (see Crime Report made to Guyana Commissioner of Police Lloyd Barker on January 18, 1978).

The aforesaid conduct on your part constitutes a violation of Article 12 (1) of the Guyana Constitution, quoted above, and Article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states as follows:

"No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his...family...."

#### VI. DEMANDS FOR RELIEF

We hereby demand that you, Jim Jones, immediately cease and desist from the aforesaid conduct and that you do the following additional acts immediately:

1. Publicly answer our questions regarding your threat of a collective "decision...to die", and publicly promise U. S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Guyana Prime Minister Forbes Burnham that you will never encourage or solicit the death of any person at Jonestown, whether individually or collectively, for any reason whatsoever;
2. Remove all guards physically preventing our relatives from leaving Jonestown;
3. Return all passports and money taken from our relatives to them for their permanent possession;
4. Permit and encourage our relatives a one-week visit home, at our expense. (Because our relatives have been in Guyana for months (and some for years) and because it is our belief that they

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do not know the full Peoples Temple story and have been prejudiced against their families, we demand you demonstrate in practice your contention that they are their own agents by permitting and encouraging our relatives to visit their families in the U. S. for one week, with our guarantee that we will provide them with round trip air fare and not interfere with their return at the end of the family visit should they so choose.)

5. Permit our relatives to write letters to whomever they wish, uncensored and in private.

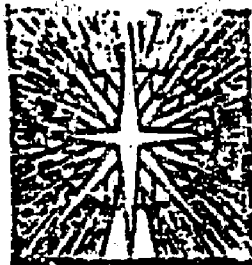
6. Permit our relatives to read letters sent to them in private and without censorship.

7. Abide by the orders of the courts in the United States which you have heretofore ignored.

8. Notify us within three days on your radio-phone network of your full acceptance and compliance with these demands by contacting: Steven A. Katsaris, Trinity School, 915 West Church Street, Ukiah, California 95482; telephone (707) 462-8721.

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# PEOPLES TEMPLE

OF THE  
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Jim Jones  
Pastor

**March 14, 1973**

"For I was an hungered  
 and ye gave me meat  
 I was thirsty  
 and ye gave me drink  
 I was a stranger  
 and ye took me in  
 Naked, and ye clothed me  
 I was sick and ye visited me  
 I was in prison  
 and ye came unto me.  
 "Then shall they respond,  
 Remember him, saying,  
 "When saw we thee an hungered  
 and fed thee?  
 Or thirsty  
 and gave thee drink?  
 When saw we thee a stranger  
 and took thee in?  
 Or naked, and clothed thee?  
 Or sick, and in prison,  
 and came unto thee?  
 "Then shall he answer them,  
 Verily I say unto you,  
 Inasmuch as ye have done it  
 unto one of the least of these  
 — Ye have done it unto me."

Matthew 25:34-46

TO ALL U.S. SENATORS AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

We at Peoples Temple have been the subject of harassment by several agencies of the U.S. Government, and are rapidly reaching the point at which patience is exhausted. Radical Trotskyite elements which defected from our organization were we refused to follow their violent course have been orchestrating a campaign against us. Two of these, Michael Garmatz and Jim Cobb, were actually disavowed making accusations several years ago. These same two persons have boasted about knowing persons in the IRS and FCC and using them to get back at Peoples Temple. They also vowed secretly to several witnesses that they would see to it that our group of over 1,000 U.S. citizens (currently conducting a highly successful agricultural project in Guyana) were starved out by having funds cut off from the U.S. To date, several agencies have been attempting various forms of harassment. First was the Social Security, which tried to deny legitimacy, beneficiaries of their rights by stopping off all checks that were coming to Guyana. Through the intervention of various government officials, we were able to have this reinstated, as it should have been.

Now, however, we see that the IRS and Treasury Dept. and even the Federal Communications Commission, are trying to initiate ways to cut off our lifelines. The FCC has suddenly decided to pursue a very minor complaint that was registered a year ago. It is clear that the intention is to disrupt our essential medium of communication, amateur radio. Each week we contact thousands of amateur radio operators; contacts and communication with persons in the U.S. have literally saved lives and have considered priceless goodwill in this part of the world. We consistently praise the U.S. over the airways and remain entirely supportive of U.S. policy in the Caribbean and around the world, especially with non-aligned nations. It seems utterly cruel to deprive such a large group of Americans of their only means of quick communication with the U.S. We cannot believe that you would want to do this, nor would you in any very conscious such an organized effort to "serve our" hundreds of U.S. citizens, who are seeking to live in peace and be a credit to the U.S. elsewhere. These same agencies and elements in the press would seek to destroy any constructive thinking official.

Our cooperative project in Guyana has been cited by people the world over as an example of a new image for the U.S. This project and the efforts of Peoples Temple were recently praised in the magazine One World, a publication of the World Council of Churches. Even Russia's Red Times magazine has praised this work and done so in spite of our strong support of Russian people of Jewish descent, an obvious disapproval. We receive letters weekly from Russia, as well as from people in other parts of the world who have heard of the project, offering advice and assistance. In fact, several countries have been told from Russia, which sees our current harassment as a form of political persecution. We do not want to take assistance from any people nor do we want to become an international issue. We also do not intend to be starved out by having our legitimately earned income cut off through the efforts of Trotskyite people and embittered misadventurers. We have no political aspirations whatsoever. Jim Jones has spent the last 8 months working to develop the project in Guyana. We wish to continue to do so unviolated and unharmed. This project has done a great deal of practical good for the U.S., not only in promoting a positive image in a place where many of the populace have been of a left leaning, but also in a very tangible way financially. The amount of tax dollars we have saved the U.S. by taking people off welfare and off SSI and starting them from invisible lives of crime would total conservatively in the hundreds of thousands. More importantly than that, lives have been saved that would have been meant for destruction. It seems cruel that anyone would want to escalate this type of bureaucratic harassment into an international issue, but it is equally evident that people cannot forever be continually harassed and beleaguered by such tactics without seeking alternatives that have been presented. I can say without hesitation that we are convinced in a decision that it is better even to die than to be constantly harassed from one continent to the next. I hope you can look into this matter and protect the right of over 1,000 people from the U.S. to live in peace.

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AFFIDAVIT OF YOLANDA D. A. CRAWFORD SHOWING  
THE TEACHINGS AND PRACTICES OF REV. JAMES  
WARREN JONES IN GUYANA, SOUTH AMERICA

I, Yolanda D. A. Crawford, certify as follows:

1. I was in Guyana, South America as a member of Peoples Temple from April 1, 1977 until June 29, 1977. Rev. James Warren Jones ("Jim Jones"), the leader of Peoples Temple, was in Guyana most of April and during the latter part of June, at which times I witnessed the following statements and practices by him.
2. Jim Jones said that the United States is the "most evil" nation in the world, referring to its political and industrial leaders as "capitalistic pigs". He said he would rather have his people dead than live in the United States.
3. Jim Jones prior to June said that people would be coming to live in Guyana for a temporary period of time. In June Jim Jones stated that the people he brings over from the United States will be staying in Guyana "permanently".
4. Jim Jones said that nobody will be permitted to leave Jonestown and that he was going to keep guards stationed around Jonestown to keep anybody from leaving. He said that he had guns and that if anyone tries to leave they will be killed ("offed") and their bodies will be left in the jungle and "we can say that we don't know what happened to you." He also said, "I can get a hit man for fifty dollars. I can get a hit man for me to get a hit man

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10. Jim Jones ordered us to "report" on one another to prevent "treason". His technique was to have everyone report to him (or his two or three most trusted leaders) all suspicious talk or behavior of others.

11. Jim Jones ordered people punished when they broke his rules. The punishments included food-deprivation, sleep-deprivation, hard labor, and eating South American hot peppers. I saw a teenager, Tommy Bogue, being forced to eat hot peppers at a public meeting.

12. So far as I know, only one person (Leon Brosheard) out of 850 or more residents has dared to leave Jonestown since my mother, husband and I left on June 29, 1977. Before Jim Jones allowed me to leave, I was forced to promise him I would never speak against the church, and that if I did I would lose his "protection" and be "stabbed in the back". Furthermore, Jim Jones ordered me to sign a number of self-incriminating papers, including a statement that I was against the government of Guyana, that I had plotted against that government, that I was part of the PPP (Peoples Progressive Party), which is the opposition party in Guyana, and that I had come to Guyana to help the PPP. Jim Jones said the reason for signing those papers was to discredit me if I ever decided to leave the movement "and talk". Also, before leaving for Guyana, I was ordered to fabricate a story and sign it stating that I killed someone and threw the body in the ocean. I was told that if I ever caused Jim Jones trouble, he would give that statement to the police. He further intimidated me and others in the congregation by saying, "I, (Jim Jones) have Mafia connections, and they will stand with me all the way."

13. I heard him state to the congregation in Guyana that Marshall Kilduff, who wrote the first articles exposing him, was dead. He said, "The angels have taken care of him". We all knew the "angels" were his people who would do you in if you crossed Jim Jones.

14. Jim Jones ordered all telephone calls to relatives in the United States to be made in the presence of Temple members and after coaching. When my mother tried to call her brother in the United States and get him to stop criticizing the Temple, Jim Jones stood by her side and told her everything she was to say and then faulted her for not being forceful enough. He ordered us to call our relatives in the United States to stop criticizing him or we would not be allowed to return home.

15. On numerous occasions I was in the congregation when he told us "I am God" and "there is no other God, and religion is the opium of the people." He stated he used religion only to get to the masses.

16. I recall several instances of Jim Jones stating he could silence critics or defectors by accusing them of being homosexuals, child abusers, terrorists or sexual deviates.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed at San Francisco, California on April 10, 1978.

*[Signature]*  
Jolanda D. B. Greenblatt

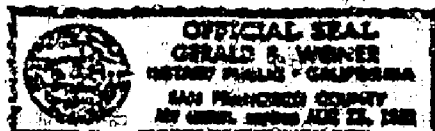
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF

SAN FRANCISCO

On April 10 1978 before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared Jolanda D. B. Greenblatt known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.



120 Montgomery St., San Francisco, California

*[Signature]*  
Notary Public in and for said State.

STEVEN A. KATSARIS

AFFIDAVIT

AN ACCOUNT OF SOME OF MY EXPERIENCES WITH PEOPLE'S TEMPLE CHURCH  
WHEN I ATTEMPTED TO VISIT MY DAUGHTER IN GUYANA.

In July, 1977 my daughter Maria called me from San Francisco to tell me she would be going to the People's Temple Agricultural Mission in Guyana and would be there several weeks. She also informed me that an article highly prejudicial to People's Temple Church was about to be published in the New West magazine and asked if I would send a telegram to the publisher in support of the Church's work. I did so stating in the telegram that I believed they were working with people that our social system had largely neglected. Shortly after the first article appeared in New West magazine my daughter called me from Georgetown to inform me that the article was untrue, politically motivated and that I should have no concern about her activities in the Church. She also told me that she wanted to stay several more weeks in Guyana if that was agreeable with me.

At that time a number of articles appeared in newspapers concerning the experiences of some members of the Church. I became increasingly concerned about my daughter when I read that members had been subjected to various types of psychological and physical coercion. In several phone calls with my daughter I was assured that she was well and told her that in several months I would be visiting Washington D.C. on personal business and was considering going on to Guyana afterward to see her. She appeared enthusiastic and receptive to this idea.

My daughter's letters continued to be positive mentioning that she missed me, was concerned about my health, and asked me to send down some mosquito netting and other things that she needed. Early in September 1977 I contacted the Church offices in San Francisco and asked them to inform Maria on their radio phone that I would be arriving in Georgetown on September 26. Several days passed and I received a telephone call from People's Temple Church telling me that radio communication had not been favorable and they were unable to contact my daughter. I told them to keep trying since there still was adequate time before I would be leaving for South America. Several days later at 3:00 in the morning I received a telephone call from an unidentified person who told me that she was part of the group of people who had left People's Temple Church. The purpose of her phone call was to discourage me from going to Guyana. She said it would probably put my daughter in a difficult position. The caller hung up before I could ask any questions. The following night again at approximately 3:00 A.M. I received another phone call. Again the unidentified caller cautioned me about going to Guyana and in more forceful terms told me that it might not be safe for me to do so. The following night I received another telephone call at approximately 4:00 in the morning. This time the caller was a man who told me I should think carefully about my decision to go to Guyana and mentioned that since I lived alone on a ranch in an isolated area my home could be burned down.

The next night on September 14 I received a radio phone call from my daughter Maria. She told me she had learned of my plans to visit her in Guyana and asked that I delay my trip until December when a group

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of prominent clergy would be visiting their agricultural project. The radio phone call was prolonged with many pauses and interruptions but the essence of the conversation was a series of obstacles presented to me by my daughter to discourage me from visiting. After I told her that I did not wish to travel with a group of clergy in December and that I would be going down September 26 she told me that the government of Guyana discouraged visitors due to the "tremendous harassment" that Jim Jones had been subjected to. She mentioned that he had been shot at in the jungle. I told my daughter that both she and Jim Jones knew that I would not harass them, that I had supported her membership in the Church and that I would go to the Guyanese Embassy in Washington and ask for clearance to travel to Guyana. After a pause, Maria told me that it was the policy of the Church not to permit visitors to the project. This seemed extremely strange to me since I had letters from my daughter indicating that there were daily visitors to the project. (See attached copy.) I then offered to meet Maria in Georgetown. She told me she would not be in Guyana but would be in Venezuela during the time of my intended visit. I suggested meeting her in Venezuela but she said she could not see me there since she would only be in that country several days and wanted to spend that time with her fiancé. Her fiancé's name reportedly was Larry who was the medical officer for the agricultural project. I have since learned that another parent Sherwin Harris has been told that his daughter in Guyana is married to the same doctor. I interpret this ploy as a rather crude attempt to assure parents that their children in the Church are well and married or about to be married to fine professional people. The radio phone call was extremely strange and caused me great anxiety because it

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did not sound like my daughter was free to speak for herself and certainly her choice of words did not appear natural. The long pauses in the conversation made me suspect she was being coached. When I finally told her that I was upset and frightened and that I would use every legal and diplomatic means to see her she replied that she would not see me even if I did come to Guyana.

The following day I sent a telegram to Rev. Jim Jones telling him of my concern and asking for his reply. (Copy attached.) No reply was ever forthcoming.

Shortly afterwards I left for Washington D.C. where I contacted John Matheny, Military Advisor to Vice President Mondale, and Frank Tuninia of the Guyanese Desk of the State Department. I told them of my concern and solicited their help. I also went to the Guyanese Embassy and was assured that I could travel to Guyana. When I arrived in Georgetown I first went to the United States Embassy and made contact with Mr. Richard McCoy. He showed me a handwritten transcript that was delivered to the Embassy by People's Temple Church member Paula Adams. The message claimed to be from my daughter and had been received in Georgetown via radio phone. It stated that Maria was happy, she was twenty-four years old, engaged to be married and had had a traumatic childhood and did not wish to see her father. Mr. McCoy stated that Paula Adams volunteered background information on me saying that I was a child molester and had sexually abused my daughter and offered that as a reason that Maria did not want to see me. After an unsuccessful attempt to make contact with my daughter in the interior I returned

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to Washington D.C. and related my concern to the State Department, Senator Hubert Humphrey's office, Senator Cranston's office, Congressman Phillip Burton's office, Congressman Lawson's office, the Vice President's office, and the International Human Rights Commission's office.

After my return to California I contacted and personally interviewed as many former members of People's Temple Church as would speak with me. To my dismay I learned that my daughter had been received into the innermost governing body of People's Temple Church and held a position of influence and intimate knowledge of the workings of the movement. I further learned from former members that she was responsible for large amounts of money and while in San Francisco would on occasion have upwards of \$200,000.00 in cash and checks in her room at the Temple. I ascertained from people who had firsthand knowledge that Maria had been required to sign an undated suicide note that could be used to explain her disappearance should she ever attempt to leave the Church. In addition to this she had signed statements incriminating herself and her family of various imagined bizarre misdeeds. I was further told by a former member of the Church that she and Maria had been required to sign statements that the Children's Residential Treatment Center that I direct was involved in a gigantic welfare fraud, that it was staffed by child molesters and homosexuals, that I myself was a child molester, and had sexually abused one of the girls in the program and that the children in our care were being abused. I was also told that my daughter's life could be in jeopardy if People's Temple Church thought that she was about to defect. In view of the threatening

01:15:24:33

phone calls that I have received, this appeared to be a definite possibility. After speaking with Mr. Robert Chilamides an investigator for the State of California, with Mr. James Hubert investigator for the United States Treasury Department, and Mrs. Jan Tespool an investigator for the Mendocino County Sheriff's Department I lived in constant anxiety for my daughter's safety. I was convinced that People's Temple Church was using their humanitarian efforts and social welfare activities to cover for their ultimate goal which is the establishment of world socialism (facism?) with Jim Jones as their leader and that they would stop at nothing including calumny, character assassination, blackmail, threats of violence and even murder to achieve their goal. In early November I made another trip to Washington D.C. where I convinced Guyanese Ambassador Lawrence Mann to arrange a meeting between my daughter and me. He went to Georgetown and while there called me and told me that Rev. Jones had agreed to the meeting and assured him that he wanted the members of his Church to have the closest possible relations with their families. I was told to come to Georgetown which I did the following day. Ambassador Mann met me at my hotel in Georgetown, told me that Maria would be in the following day and that he had arranged to take Maria, Mr. McCoy from the United States Embassy and me to dinner as his guests. After the dinner he and Mr. McCoy would depart and Maria and I could have the opportunity to speak privately. Maria did not arrive as planned and the Ambassador phoned me explaining that the Church was having difficulties getting her to Georgetown from the interior. The following day I was given the same story. And finally by Saturday of that week the Ambassador called and told me that Maria would be arriving at 4:00 p.m. At 6:00 p.m. that day the Ambassador again

had signed an undated suicide note, she demanded to know the source of my information. I told her that was not the important issue and that she could alleviate my anxiety by simply telling me it was not true. She replied that since I would not reveal the source of my information she would not discuss that subject. In the course of the conversation with Maria I told her that before leaving for Guyana I had spoken with Grace Stoen who wanted me to convey her love and concern to her son John. Maria told me that Grace was an unfit mother and she had abused her child and that Maria was now the mother for John. She also told me in a tone that I did not believe possible from my daughter that if Grace made any attempt to get her child back she would be sorry. My daughter's affect and the manner in which she spoke conveyed to me the tone of a serious threat. The entire meeting was extremely painful for me and depressing. I managed to tell my daughter that if she ever wanted to return home a ticket would be waiting for her at the Embassy. When I told her of my belief in God and that somehow things would work out, she and another woman from the Church were quick to point out to me that they do not believe in God.

After the meeting I went to the airport to catch a flight to New York City. At the airport I received a message to call Mr. McCoy. In our telephone conversation he told me that both he and Ambassador Mann were disturbed by the meeting and believed that something strange was happening since he could see no reason why the Church should take that attitude towards me. He told me that he would write to me, but to this date I have received no communication from him. After arriving in New York City I proceeded to Washington D.C. where I spent numerous days

contacting as many people in the government as I thought would help me. Most were sympathetic but were quick to point out that since my daughter is 24 years of age and since it appears that she is in Guyana voluntarily there is little they could do to help me.

Since November I have received no communication from Maria and have not attempted to make contact with her since I believe this might be interpreted either as an attempt on my part to get her out of the Church or as a sign that Maria is wavering and is about to defect and might place her life in jeopardy.

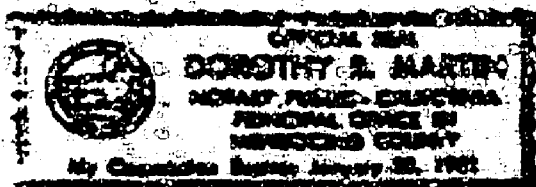
*Steven A. Katzaris*

Steven A. Katzaris  
Trinity School for Children  
Ukiah, California

April 4, 1978

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF MENDOCINO



ON April 4 19 78  
before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared

STEVEN A. KATZARIS

known to me,  
to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument,  
and acknowledged to me that he executed the same.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

*Dorothy R. Martin*  
Notary Public in and for said State.

00445001000

called, appeared somewhat irritated and said he had been informed by the Church's offices in Georgetown that Maria had arrived but was not feeling well and could not go to dinner. I immediately called the Church offices and asked to speak with my daughter. I was told to wait and after a considerable delay was told that Maria was not there and had gone out to dinner. I asked that she call me at my hotel when she returned and was assured that she would. I did not receive a telephone call on Saturday night. However, at 7:15 Sunday morning I was informed by a representative of People's Temple Church that Maria would meet with me in 45 minutes. Ambassador Mann and Mr. McCoy were at the meeting when Maria arrived with four other persons, two men -- one who identified himself as an attorney representing the Church -- and two women. Maria appeared agitated, could not look me in the eye, and did not return my embrace which appeared unusual and even ominous to me. She looked as if she had not slept well or had been deprived of sleep over a long period of time and her general attitude was one of suspicion, hostility and paranoia. She accused me of causing trouble for the Guyanese government and stated that because of my efforts Guyana had been black listed by the International Human Rights Commission. She stated further that the Church had been informed by the United States government that I was a member of a conspiracy against the Church and was associated with a right wing Congressman who intended to destroy the Church. She accused me of lying to her about my health. When I pointed to Paula Adams, one of the women who accompanied her to the meeting, and asked if she knew that this woman had gone to Mr. McCoy and told him that I had abused my daughter sexually, Maria refused to discuss the subject. When I told her that I had information that she

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MAILMAN SERVICE CENTER  
MIDDLETOWN, VA. 22645



Mailgram



2-0700732258002 09/19/77 ICS IFMNCZ CSP SIOA  
1 PMN IDRM UKIAH CA 09-15 0420P EST

➤ STEVEN A. KATSARIS  
315 WEST CHURCH ST  
UKIAH CA 93482

THIS MAILGRAM IS A CONFIRMATION COPY OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

LT IDRM UKIAH CA 126 09-15 0204P PDT  
1ST LT REV JIM JONES PEOPLES TEMPLE AG PROJECT CARE FOR MICOY  
US EMBASSY  
GEORGETOWN (GUYANA)

RADIOPHONE COMMUNICATIONS SEPTEMBER 18TH WITH DAUGHTER MARIA  
KATSARIS CAUSED EXTREME ANXIETY STOP PLANS TO VISIT HER SEVERAL DAYS  
HAVE MET WITH COMPLICATED REASONS WHY SHE CANT SEE HER FATHER STOP I  
WAS TOLD THE GUYANA GOVERNMENT DISCOURAGED VISITORS STOP I OFFERED  
TO SEEK PERMISSION THROUGH GUYANA EMBASSY THEN TOLD IT WAS YOUR  
POLICY NOT TO PERMIT VISITORS IN PROJECT STOP I OFFERED TO MEET  
MARIA IN GEORGETOWN STOP THEN TOLD SHE WOULD BE IN VENEZUELA WITH  
BOY FRIEND STOP I SUGGESTED MEET HER IN VENEZUELA STOP THEN TOLD HER  
TO COME TO GUYANA BECAUSE SHE WOULD NOT SEE ME STOP WHAT IS WRONG  
GUYANA GOVERNMENT DAUGHTERS REFUSAL TO SEE ME STOP AM TRYING HARD TO  
BE OBJECTIVE AND NOT BELIEVE IN RECENT PUBLICITY STOP WHY CANT I SEE  
MARIA STOP HER RECENT LETTERS INDICATE SHE LOVES AND MISSES HER  
FAMILY STOP UPON ASSURANCE BARRY WOOD FORMER DIRECTOR LEGAL STEVE  
FOUNTAIN MEMPHIS COUNTY I WILL ARRIVE IN GEORGETOWN TO SEE MARIA  
SEPTEMBER 20TH AM HURT PUZZLED AND ANXIOUS PLEASE REPLY STEVEN A  
KATSARIS TRINITY SCHOOL 315 WEST CHURCH STREET UKIAH CALIFORNIA  
93482

STEVEN A. KATSARIS

DEL 14TH 24TH 315 93482  
1025 EST

ENDCOMP PMH

Dear Pop,

How are you feeling? I really hope you are feeling better. Has the doctor told you anything else? Please let me know because I am worried about you.

Right now I am in the interior again and am on my way by boat which takes about 23 hours coming down the Llanos River is one of my most favorite things. It is hard to describe how beautiful it is. It is so peaceful. I like to sit out on the deck and watch all the scenery. All the animals and birds, plus all the different kinds of tropical plants. The little Peruvian children run out to wave at the boat. The boat is called the Cudjoe - its boat. One we have at the agricultural project.

I live in a very nice <sup>wooden</sup> ~~building~~ cottage. Some of the cottages have been made out of stone. It is a kind of plank sort of like a pole house. Not really. The Peruvians go out in the bush & cut it down. They dry it out for a few days and then in the morning a truck goes from the station, picks up the wood & brings it. They are just as simple as the wooden ones.

Love  
Sally



# DECLARATION

It is different things around here. I sort of help coordinate, but I also spend time in the medical clinic and in the school. Also I like to go out and work in the fields with the plants. One of the carpenters here is even showing me a few things. I love working with my hands.

I can honestly say I have never been happier or healthier. There is something about this climate I guess. Also, being able to work outside without all the tension and pressure of a city. I don't think you realize it until you get away from it.

I know you would love it here since I know how much you like working outside & stuff. Some of the things going on here are that you would be interested in. We have a biggy where the cowboys go. The town is getting a little better. There are also about 1000 more chicken houses. I don't know if you have ever heard of the cassava which is a plant grown here. It is kind of like a potato. You can make it into bread or fried like any kind of potato. It is called cassava which is a paper.

# DECLARATION



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has been in the Canton  
 can be made from it. It is  
 sort of like soy sauce so to  
 Chinese food. It looks like it only  
 thicker. The taste is not  
 similar. The fish part is used  
 for some food. It has been  
 we prepared in a large volume  
 will. Other are used to make it  
 cups of don't know all of them  
 first some are eaten like the whole  
 preparation. Some are eaten like  
 breakfast, different kinds and vegetables  
 other people have are working in  
 developing new kinds of food. They  
 example there is a large bean  
 called a cotton bean. They  
 found it has a very high protein  
 content and they are trying to come  
 up with a way to put it  
 as it looks like like sausage  
 but it can be fixed into  
 a product and we call it  
 cotton beef. It is delicious.  
 It is one of my favorite things  
 - I would like to try it  
 its name is something like  
 my other things. But I only  
 one sample of the thing that  
 have been developed from other  
 government is only important and  
 has and this is the fact

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model of agriculture in the  
nation. Some of the other  
things that are here are a  
saw mill, carpentry shop, school,  
medical clinic and other  
things which I'll tell you  
about next time. I guess  
I am really rambling on but  
I just want to share my  
enthusiasm with you for what  
is going on here. I know you  
would love it like I said. It  
is hard to describe all the  
beauty of the jungle and all  
that is going on at the pro-  
ject too.

Right before I came into  
the interior, I helped put together  
an exhibit for all the government  
officials and the Parliament. It  
took a large room and we  
had different tables like for  
education, agriculture, recreation,  
etc. We also had a long table  
where they could sample the  
new foods developed at the  
project with foods all native  
to Guyana. That was a real  
big hit. We had papaya fried  
rice, plantain chips and bean  
burgers, (which I also loved) a  
new kind of breakfast cereal  
from plantain & lots of other  
stuff. (I think you can tell

by now a kind of like the  
food here (the star) I think I  
might even get fat if I keep  
this up. (The star) rather any-  
way back to the exhibit...  
(I guess you have figured one  
reason why I never become a writer  
is because I don't keep my thoughts  
to organized on paper - I just skip  
round all over the place, like  
I was saying the exhibit exhibit -  
was a big hit and they were  
very impressed. When

Visitors come into the project  
daily as it has become a sort  
of model, and is pretty unique.  
Today a teacher and educator  
came through. They liked the  
way the school is set up  
and intend to incorporate some of  
the same ideas in a school  
the government is opening up here  
soon.

Yesterday the ambassador to  
the UN came with his wife.  
They brought a little boy from  
Venezuela who had suffered from  
malnutrition - all his brothers &  
sisters had died from it. He  
is 4 yrs. old but looks like  
he is only 2 from being so  
malnourished. But he is really  
cute and he is being adopted  
here at the mission. When

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many children from the local area living here. One thing that has been done by the medical clinic is that gastroenteritis (if that's how you spell it - which I'm sure it's not) has been virtually wiped out in this area.

Anyway I better stop for now & I don't want you to have to read through a whole lot. But I do have a lot to tell you. Some future attractions I'm upcoming letters include \* more about what I do at the school, \* the bush, \* the arrival here, and much more. Oh! How could I forget to tell you - I am now the proud mother of 3 baby armadillos! Their nest was disturbed out in the fields which meant the mother would probably reject them. So now I am feeding them with an eye dropper. I hope they make it. It would be neat to have little armadillos running around!

One last thing - please, please, please do not get disturbed by the bad publicity the church has gotten. I am more convinced than ever of congressional & political set ups. It is absolutely incredible how the press can print such a

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biting bunch of lies and are  
allowed to get by with it.  
They refuse to print what we  
have had to say or to show  
the truth. I guess they other  
makes for more sensational  
reading. I am not surprised  
though. A society that is based  
on economic inequality and  
race classism is certainly not  
going to let and organization  
advocating economic & racial  
equality exist too easily. But  
no matter what they think they  
will not succeed. This group has  
done too much good and helped  
to many people. ~~What is unfortunate~~ What  
is unfortunate is that the  
mentality of many people is un-  
objective when it comes to  
the media. Most people believe  
everything they hear on the  
radio and read in the papers.  
Even man said to me, "Well,  
they wouldn't print it if it  
wasn't true." I love her very  
much & I think she is  
very intelligent but that is  
how she sees it too. I you  
happen to talk to her please  
tell her not to worry about  
it since there isn't anything  
to even be worried about in  
the first place. What I

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worry about <sup>it</sup> that such a  
thing has been allowed to hap-  
pen. What is ironic is that  
we have always been the first  
to stand for freedom of the  
press & 5th amendment rights.  
I can certainly tell you I  
will have a hard time believing  
the papers anymore. At least  
I will look at what is being  
said with a very scrutinizing  
eye. Well that's also enough of  
that. If you want to know  
anything - just ask me. The  
feds would be rather hard  
pressed to look around this place  
which is just one aspect of our  
work - and continue with what  
they are saying - when hundreds  
of needy people are being clothed,  
housed & fed & given good medi-  
cal care.

I am also writing Mom & if  
you send me Ray's address I  
will write her too. The mail  
will probably take about 2 wks to  
get to me in the interior - so  
hurry up & write! One of these  
times I will get some guy<sup>s</sup> to set  
up a phone patch & will call  
you on the radio. Bye for now.  
Love you & miss you - E.  
write. Your daughter, Maria

P.S. THIS IS REAL MY WRITING!!

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[illegible]

مفتی محمد رفیع

Hi! How are you doing? I hope you & everyone else are doing good. I'm doing well & I'm really happy. I really like Guyanese life.

What have you been up to? I've mainly  
been going to school. I've made a lot of  
friends & have a lot of fun! I've  
also getting good grades so far.

There are a few differences too. I have never seen any before. Like a fruit called the Juncap. It is hard to describe but all I know is that it's delicious. It is good to eat it fresh & also to mash it up & put it in the freezer. It tastes like sorbet. There is also the Gracedilly. You use the pulp & make cobbler out of it. It tastes better than but something like peach cobbler.

I am sorry to hear that you called the radio station but since you did I will not be writing you any more. I don't know what you think - all I know is that I love it in Guyana & I truly am happy.

Yours Truly,  
R. Gordon

38

RECEIVED JUL 11 1977

in July - 1977 my sons told me  
they wanted to go to Guyana for two  
weeks. They had been several places;  
with the Church members, & from force  
to me. Agreed for them to go.

On July 26, 1977 I was very busy  
and I left for work, leaving the sons  
at home in bed sleep. When we got  
home, we did not know they had left  
for Guyana. No one was told or called  
us. We did talk to them by Family  
Radio, for a short time.

About three weeks after they had  
left my husband & I went to the Church  
(First Temple) & talked to Marceline Jones,  
in the presence of Leona Collier & Harriet Joffe.  
We asked for the return of our sons, they all  
got angry, but Marceline said she would  
call him & tell him. But neither boy came  
home & no more was mentioned.

The same week I called to People  
Temple's Church & talked to Jane Wickman &  
told her I wanted to talk to my sons on  
the Family Radio. She told me I would



to tell me that would not be in  
commensurate with my sons at all.

Dec. 11/64 - 28-77 We went to Court  
for the return of William Oliver at that time  
he was still a minor aged 17 yrs. His  
parental told the judge he had to send him  
home. (24.) Later they said that even  
if he had to work for William because his  
father was not going to pay his fare back!

That same day we sent a tablet to the Rev. in  
Gungwa in Wilber. Unfortunately, the tablet  
was unused.

One said - 1977 Dpr. Rogers Holman  
One Attorney Dpr. Olson & myself, went to  
Guyana. Jim Jones had a unusual meeting  
and there discuss for it was that  
We did not see or talk to our son, that  
is what we were told by the Guyanese Prime  
Minister of Foreign Affairs. 1977. Fred Wells

We stayed 8 - days but found  
nothing at the point we do not know  
if our son is dead or alive. for we have  
not heard from him since then - 1877.  
C. J. C. E. E. E.

Dear Mom & Dad

How is everything going? Everything with me is going just fine. I'm here in Fontenay and all I got to say is that you have to see it to believe it. It's the most beautiful place I've ever seen. It's called Fontenay because that's what it is a small town. I spend half the morning working in the mill where they make bread the rest of the day thinking about you and for going swimming or walking in the place I would want to spend the rest of my life so as of now I'm staying. I love you both and think of the both of you everyday. (Not just now but you too), I often think of the things you taught me about being a man, you were right since I been here I feel like I've grown a lot. I really appreciate the time you took with me even tho a lot of the times I would get mad and walk away. Then for everything! (and I really mean it) If I didn't

have the time you left. come to see your parents  
your life would be rough. but instead it's <sup>fun</sup> sweet. The  
people are all nice and friendly. The only thing  
that would make it better is if you were here  
too. The beauty subject I'm now seeing now. Please  
write soon and stay in contact.

Love you always  
Bruce Blum

Dear Mom & Dad

How are you doing? fine I hope.  
I'm doing fine here it's very  
very beautiful here. The weather  
nice & the people here are very  
friendly always willing to help you.  
The only sorrow I have is that  
you guys are not here with me.  
Also make sure you tell Grammy  
Flouery very much and miss  
her to. Mom I hope you will come  
here soon and share all the  
happiness I have with me. ~~Over~~ Over  
you've have all pressure & tension  
leaves. Tell Dad I wish him all  
the success in his business and I  
often find myself thinking about  
him. Well I have to go now  
I'll be writing again real  
soon.

Love ya

P.S. Mom tell Brownie I missed  
her to. And love hard its worth  
it.  
your son Bill  
Dinner

SECRET

SIGNATURES OF PETITIONERS FOR RESTITUTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

VIOLATIONS IN GUYANA BY REV. JAMES JONES

Name of Petitioner at  
Jonestown, Guyana

Age

Signature of Petitioner

Relationship

1. Charles Tamm... 47

2. Anna Tamm... 75

3. Mike Tamm... 35

4. Al Tamm... 23

5. Freddie Tamm... 19

6. Gene Tamm... 40

7. Helen Tamm... 60

8. Tom Tamm... 55

9. Betty Tamm... 32

10. Margaret Tamm... 18

11. David Tamm... 17

12. Emma Tamm... 19

13. Mary Tamm... 32

14. Amanda Tamm... 17

15. Ernest Tamm... 15

16. Maria Tamm... 15

17. Anna Tamm... 7

18. Emma Tamm... 14

19. Al Tamm... 6

20. Thomas Tamm... 24

21. Michael Tamm... 17

22. David Tamm... 12

23. Anna Tamm... 12

24. Emma Tamm... 12

25. Anna Tamm... 12

26. Emma Tamm... 12

27. Anna Tamm... 12

28. Emma Tamm... 12

April 11, 1978

# SUMMARY LISTING OF OUR RELATIVES IN JONESTOWN, GUYANA

<u>of Relative at</u> <u>stown</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Signer of This Accusation</u>	<u>Relationship</u> <u>to Signer</u>
Wagner, Mark	16	Richard Wagner (San Francisco)	Son
Harris, Liane	21	Sherris Harris (Lafayette)	Daughter
		Elizabeth Harris (Lafayette)	Sister
Harris, Donna	15	Don Ponce (Ukiah)	Daughter
Oliver, William S.	18	Howard Oliver (San Francisco)	Son
		Beverly Oliver (San Francisco)	Son
Oliver, Bruce H.	20	Howard Oliver & Beverly Oliver	Son
Katsaris, Maria	24	Steven A. Katsaris (Ukiah)	Daughter
Rozynko, Michael	20	Sandy Rozynko Mills (Oakland)	Brother
		Steven Mills (Oakland)	Bro.-in-law
Rozynko, Chris	22	Steve Mills & Sandy Rozynko Mills	(Same)
Stoen, John Victor	6	Grace Stoen (San Francisco)	Son
		Timothy G. Stoen (San Francisco)	Son
Sly, Mark A.	17	Neva Jean Sly (San Francisco)	Son
Sly, Donald E.	42	Neva Jean Sly	Husband
Houston, Patricia	14	Robert E. Houston (San Bruno)	Grandchild
		Nadyne L. Houston (San Bruno)	Grandchild
		Carol Boyd	Niece
Houston, Judy Lynn	13	Robert & Nadyne Houston; Carol Boyd	(Same)
Horns, Carol Ann	19	Ruth Reinhardt (Davis)	Sister
Horns, Ellen Louise	31	Ruth Reinhardt	Mother
Harris, Magnolia	61	Sylvia White (San Francisco)	Mother
		Lainelle White (San Francisco)	Grandmother
Lopez, Vincent	17	Walter Jones (San Francisco)	Legal Guard
Simon, Marcia	22	Leon Simon (Oakland)	Daughter
Simon, Barbara	22	Leon Simon	Daughter
Widfish, Mary M.	52	Rose Davis (San Francisco)	Aunt
		Carmella Truss (San Francisco)	Mother
		Louise Blumhardt (San Francisco)	Sister

April 11, 1978 (cont'd)

# SUMMARY LISTING OF OUR RELATIVES IN JONESTOWN, GUYANA

<u>Name of Relative at Jonestown</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Signer of This Accusation</u>	<u>Relationship to Signer</u>
1. Cobb, John	18	James Cobb, Jr. (San Francisco)	Brother
2. Cobb, Brenda	15	James Cobb, Jr.	Sister
3. Cobb, Sandra	21	James Cobb, Jr.	Sister
4. Cobb, Joel	12	James Cobb, Jr.	Brother
5. Brown, Ava	26	James Cobb, Jr.	Sister
6. Touchette, Charles	47	Mickey Touchette (San Francisco)	Father
7. Touchette, Joyce	45	Mickey Touchette	Mother
8. Touchette, Al	23	Mickey Touchette	Brother
9. Touchette, Mike	25	Mickey Touchette	Brother
10. Touchette, Michelle	19	Mickey Touchette	Sister
11. Swinney, Cleve	65	Mickey Touchette	Grandfather
12. Swinney, Helen	65	Mickey Touchette	Grandmother
13. Swinney, Tim	39	Mickey Touchette	Uncle
14. Berry, Diana	7	Carmella Truss (San Francisco)	Daughter
15. Griffith, Martisa	13	Carmella Truss	Sister
16. Griffith, Emmett Jr.	20	Carmella Truss	Brother
17. Griffith, Amanda	17	Carmella Truss	Sister

TOTALS: 37 Relatives in Jonestown  
25 Signers of Accusation

(As of April 11, 1978)



## Temple Trouble

In the poor-black Fillmore district of San Francisco, the Rev. Jim Jones is revered as a good Samaritan with talents in very high places. As pastor of the People's Temple, one of the largest health churches in California, Jones not only claims God's power to heal the sick but also wields palpable clout among city and state political leaders. The governor, lieutenant governor, mayor, sheriff and district attorney have all visited the temple and, during the 1976 Presidential campaign, Jones himself shared

platforms with Rosalynn Carter. Last December, the charismatic preacher who has won over black voters was named chairman of the San Francisco Housing Authority Commission by Mayor George Moscone. But now Jones stands accused by 30 former temple members of leading his power through fear, fraud, physical beatings, appropriation of parishioners' property and possible misuse of government funds.

The accusations were published in two August issues of *New West* magazine, which called for an investigation of the temple's financial and disciplinary practices. Church representatives promptly denied the charges. But a pair of surprise moves last week—Jones resigned from the Housing Authority and District Attorney Joseph Freitas announced that he would look into the accusations.

**Cotory:** No one has yet filed a formal complaint against Jones, who temple officials said was unapproachable at the church's 27,000-acre South American colony in Guyana. The city's most powerful politicians still seem solidly behind the controversial minister. Mayor Moscone has said he saw no evidence that Jones had broken any laws and, in a recent Sunday-morning sermon at the temple, black state Assemblyman Willie Brown lauded the attacks "a measure of the church's effectiveness."

Jones preaches a religious socialism but he himself, it appears, is the first to practice. His church, which claims 10,000 members statewide, sponsors a drug-rehabilitation program, a free restaurant and medical clinic and a legal-aid service. More radically, Jones encourages his flock to give up their private property and live in low-rent apartments owned by the church from the city. Jones and his wife live modestly above the temple, where they are raising a multiracial family of seven adopted children and their own son. But his eccentricities also are expressed as whimsies. On Election Day, the poor collector for his leader. In two recent close races for

mayor and district attorney, Jones's regimented followers were considered important to the winners.

According to some former church members, however, Jones's power is based as much on fear and fraud as on faith. His services are often held behind locked doors, and even then Jones is protected by bodyguards. The break-way parishioners described ritual beatings and humiliating group encounters held at all-night sessions. A former secretary to Jones reported that the preacher faked healings by displaying chicken guts as tissue he had miraculously removed from cancer patients. Others said they had been persuaded into donating over their homes to the church



Jones (inset). Klan drama: 'That's why people turned over all they had'

and had been talked into giving the temple government funds they received for running foster-care homes.

When *New West* first considered investigating the People's Temple, the editors were barraged with pleas from politicians and businessmen to kill the story. When the editors persisted, some were harassed at home by anonymous callers. Meanwhile, other local newsmen reported similar coercion and only when word of the pressure campaign appeared in a local newspaper column did ex-members of the temple volunteer to tell their experiences.

On separate investigations with *New West*, former followers of Jones corroborated the *New West* report. Micki Tom-

chette, 26, told how she and eleven other students slept in a crowded garage and were given a weekly dose of \$2 each as members of a temple commune. Tomchette, who is white, said that Jones, who is part American Indian, told them "how ugly and horrible it was to be white," and "not to have sex because we were all latent homosexuals."

**KOOK:** Laura Cornelius, 32, a black woman, said that Jones promised his followers a haven in Guyana when, as he predicted, Fascists took over the U.S. "He said they had a plan to exterminate blacks like they did the Jews," Cornelius recalled. She also described a ritual by temple members that dramatized a Ku Klux Klan lynching. "That's why people turned over all they had," she said. "He told us the whites would take it."

Others reported threats against their lives if they dared talk to police and said

that they had been made to sign false confessions to crimes such as conspiracy against the government. "Jim always said he had an in with the police," said Deanna Myrtle, 38, "so we thought going to the police would be suicide."

Church officials have issued statements countering charges that some of the dissenters were terrorists and child molesters. Throughout the controversy, Jones has remained at the Guyana farm, which the church says it funds with \$150,000 annually. And some suspect that the Rev. Mr. Jones may be the first to take up permanent asylum in the Guyana haven.

—BENJAMIN L. MCCORMACK AND MARK WICKHAM AND STEPHEN G. GALT in San Francisco



PT 3-3 SCS

recd 6-23-78 (53)  
ACTION: ACP/CAR

DEC 10 1978

RN

Asst. Secretary of State Todman  
U.S. State Dept.  
2201 "C" St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20520

FILE

Dear Secretary Todman:

It is no wonder there is so much interest in what is happening in Jonestown, Guyana. The programs there are so unusual, and benefiting so many people who were a burden to the taxpayers here. Perhaps this great experiment in human and religious faith will provide models for building a more constructive life in our cities here. Certainly, the work of Rev. Jones should be recognized for all the good that is being done.

FILE

Sincerely,

Mrs. Fommie Rachelle

CC: Secretary of State Vance

Department of State, Office of Caribbean Affairs

REVIEWED BY	DATE
EDS or IDS EXT. DATE	REASON(S)
TS AUTH.	ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS
DECLASSIFIED	RELEASABLE
RELEASE DENIED	
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NO RETURN

DEC 10 1978

PT. 243.55

6/26/78  
draft 1171 (581)

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am replying to your recent letter enclosing correspondence which alleges that certain U.S. citizens are being held in Guyana against their will.

As part of the traditional and internationally sanctioned protection services, officers of the American Embassy in Georgetown, Guyana, periodically visit the Peoples Agricultural Temple located at Jonestown, Guyana. These officers have been free to move about the grounds and speak privately to any individuals, including persons who were believed by their family and friends to be held there against their will. It is the opinion of these officers, reinforced by conversations with local officials who deal with the Peoples Temple, that it is improbable anyone is being held in bondage. In general, the people appear healthy, adequately fed and housed and satisfied with their lives on what is a large farm. Many do hard, physical labor but there is no evidence of persons being forced to work beyond their capacity or against their will.

Should you have a specific individual about whom you want information, please provide the name of the person and the person's date and place of birth to the Office of Special

The Honorable  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR  
Sente B. Fascell, Chairman,  
REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
Subcommittee on International Operations,  
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TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ REASON \_\_\_\_\_  
Subcommittee on International Relations,  
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House of Representatives.

Consular Services, Department of State, Washington, D.C.  
20520. During the next visit to the Peoples Temple by an  
Officer of the American Embassy, that officer will attempt  
to speak privately with the individual in question, convey  
your concern and report to you.

If you have further questions, please contact  
Mr. Rudolphy L. Rivera in our Office of Special Consular  
Services, telephone 332-9461.

Sincerely,

Douglas J. Bennet, Jr.

Assistant Secretary  
for Congressional Relations

Enclosures:

Correspondence returned.

CA/SCS/RLRivera/mrer  
ext 23015 6/26/78  
P96-0355

Clearances:SCS-Mr. Dobrenchuk

SCS-Miss Day

CA-Miss Watson

H-Mr. Krizek



Sincerely,

Enclosures:  
Correspondence returned.

Clearances: SCS-Mr. Dobrenchuk? *RLC*  
SCS-Miss Day  
CA-Miss Watson *WJL*  
E-Mr. Krizek

1. The first group of people who are not in the military are the people who are not in the military.



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COMMUNICATIONS CONTROL RECORD		DATE RECEIVED	A 12-11-13
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2 FOLLOWUP COPY

2000-101

OPTIONAL FORM 102 (4-75)  
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

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← SECOND COPY

FORM 102

OPTIONAL FORM 102 (4-72)  
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

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**URGENT**  
**A CONGRESSIONAL - FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION**

A reply or written acknowledgment must be made within Three Working Days (See S. PAN 1334.3 or H. Guide Lines).

If for any reason, a problem is anticipated, drafting officer should immediately call H. Extension 21488, 21489 or 21490.

10-110

2-02

RECEIVED

P780103-2250

Custody Case SCS 2012  
585 E H2

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U.S.  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

July 6 1978

Respectfully referred to

Mr. Douglas J. Bennett, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary for Congressional  
Relations  
U. S. Department of State  
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Sir:

It would be appreciated if you would  
advise me if there are any further  
developments in the attached matter.

Thank you.

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ACTION

SCS

JUL 11 PM 2 37

Shen custody case -  
Guyana

Very respectfully,

C. H. Bill Young

CUT:SSW

6th District

No constituent

responded by phone to  
Alice Waller, Cong. B. Young's office  
7/13



## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D. C. 20520

RECEIVED

MAR 25 1978

COLUMBIA, M.C.

March 21, 1978

Dear Mr. Young:

I am pleased to reply to your letter of February 27 concerning the case of John Victor Stoen, currently the subject of a custody dispute in Guyana. Similar expressions of interest have been received from several other Members of Congress.

While we in the Department of State fully understand Mr. and Mrs. Stoen's desire to regain physical custody of their son, regrettably there is little we can do to be of assistance. Neither the Department of State nor the courts of the State of California have the authority to enforce a U.S. court decision concerning the custody of John Victor as long as he is physically located outside of the United States. Child custody orders issued in the United States are normally not accepted for enforcement in another country on the basis of comity. While any American custody decision might be given evidentiary weight in the Guyanese proceeding, by no means will it be binding on that court.

Since the initiation of the custody suit last August, the Department of State and our Embassy in Guyana have been in close contact with the Stoens and their attorneys, both American and Guyanese. An Embassy officer has attended all court proceedings, when permitted to attend, and has assisted the Stoens in gaining access to Guyanese government officials. The Embassy has regularly had conversations with the opposing attorneys and has spoken with Mr. Jim Jones, the head of the People's Temple. As Mr. Jones is also an American citizen and entitled to the same rights and protection as Mr. and Mrs. Stoen, the Embassy has been careful to avoid prejudicing the outcome of the dispute. It is the Embassy's responsibility

The Honorable

S. W. Bill Young,

House of Representatives.

03 11 00 10 30

to seek to ensure that the judicial outcome of the dispute results from a fair and impartial determination of the merits of the case, and all of our efforts are so directed.

Following a hearing held on January 10, Mr. Stoen's attorney stated that he anticipated a favorable decision at the conclusion of the proceedings. Mr. Stoen himself was guardedly optimistic in conversations with officers at the Department of State on January 27.

On February 24, the American Consul in Georgetown, Guyana met with the new Guyanese Minister of Justice, Mohamed Shahabuddin. Minister Shahabuddin stated that child custody cases are civil disputes and therefore there is no legal requirement that hearings be scheduled within a specific time period. Further, the Minister indicated that a judge's written opinion may take four months to compose and release. Consequently, the delay to date in the Stoen case is not considered excessive under Guyanese legal procedures.

The Department shall continue to keep you informed of progress in this case. Should you require further information, please contact our Office of Special Consular Services, telephone 632-3015.

Sincerely,

Douglas J. Barnett, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary  
for Congressional Relations

Enclosure:

Correspondence returned

REA 32  
PT. exhibits

536  
Chow

CONFIDENTIAL

September 12, 1978

MEMORANDUM

TO: ARA - Ambassador Vaky  
FROM: ARA/CAN - Richard A. McGeogh  
SUBJECT: People's Temple  
REFERENCE: ARA/CAN Memorandum Dated Sept. 11, 1978  
Congressman Ryan's Request for Appointment

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/WH	
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The following information is background data concerning the People's Temple religious organization activities in Guyana.

The People's Temple is a bi-racial pseudo religious organization that was founded by a Rev. Jim Jones. In general it was established to perform community services primarily in Los Angeles and San Francisco for the disadvantaged. The organization initially came to Guyana in 1973 to investigate the possibility of establishing a foreign community. After negotiations with the Government of Guyana the People's Temple was accorded a lease in 1974 to farm 27,000 acres in the North/West district of Guyana. This lease was to provide the People's Temple with sufficient area to develop an agricultural community for its members in the United States. This decision by the GOG to extend extensive acreage to the People's Temple is in line with the GOG policy to open up the interior of Guyana to agricultural development. Since July 1977 approximately 1200 people of the community have arrived in Guyana. The organization has been able to clear about 400 acres.

However, beginning in July 1977 press articles appeared on the West Coast that contained allegations by former members of the People's Temple that they had been defrauded out of their life savings and/or property by the organization. Further accusations

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

were made that members had undergone ritual beatings and long sessions of brain washing that resulted in members becoming psychologically intimidated and afraid for their life. When this influx of People's Temple members began in Guyana, the Embassy in Georgetown began to receive frequent welfare and whereabouts inquiries on the part of concerned relatives of members of the community. Family members feared that their relatives were being held against their will at the agricultural mission, forced to work long hours with little or no subsistence, that their mail was censored and that they were often physically beaten.

I personally travelled on three occasions to the agricultural site as part of my duties as Chief of the Consular Section in Georgetown. On every occasion I was unable to confirm the above allegations, and in personal private meetings with individuals I was assured by them that they had come to Guyana of their own free will and were satisfied with their present living conditions. I also discussed this matter informally with members of the Government of Guyana including the regional district officer having jurisdiction over the community and the regional police superintendent. On the basis of my observations, I believe some of the allegations to be untrue. At the same time, there is no question that members of the organization have been psychologically influenced to leave the United States to seek a better life in Guyana. The People's Temple has published documents and members have orally stated to me that they believe they are the victims of a conspiracy directed against the organization by right wing forces in the United States.

The People's Temple has organized itself as a communal. It proclaims to be a religious organization that espouses socialist philosophy. It has reportedly attracted many black members by claiming that some time in the future an American Government will resolve the racial problem by putting Black Americans in concentration camps.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- 3 -

Concurrently, with the above problem a child custody case arose in September 1977 when Mrs. Grace Steen through her Guyanese Attorney sought to regain the custody of her four year old son who is presently in the custody of Rev. Jones. Mr. Timothy Steen later entered the case with his wife (they were separated). However, since September 1977 while a number of hearings were held no decision was rendered. In a surprise move the Judge decided to return the case to the Chief Justice because of what he considered to be outside influences on the case. In this connection, Mr. and Mrs. Steen have maintained that Jones has been able to influence high level members of the Government of Guyana into interceding in the case against them. We have no direct evidence of such involvement although at one point very early in the hearings, the former Foreign Minister Fred Mills in an attempt to resolve the matter quickly became overly involved. Consular Affairs has requested a status report on the case from the Embassy.

There have also been confrontations between the People's Temple and a new organization called The Concerned Relatives Incorporated. One issue is a \$15 million slander suit against the People's Temple by the father of a member. There have been other accusations and counter accusations between the People's Temple and relatives of members that are too numerous to detail.

I have discussed the issue of the People's Temple with Assistant Secretary Watson and members of her staff on September 7 and of course had reported extensively on the subject during my tour in Georgetown.

Copies to: ARA/CAR - A HEWITT  
ARA/CAR - J Griffith  
ARA - S SHON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

10/3/78

Between Timothy Stoen, Esq.

and EHO' Kane

(587)

SCS, custody case  
10/2/78

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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Contacted Timothy Stoen to advise that Dept. had made inquiry regarding the John Victor Stoen case. (State tel. 228391) and to relay info in Georgetown 3016. Apologized for delay in getting in touch with him. Several attempts had made and messages left for him. Either he was not in when I called or he was unable to reach me when I called back.

Mr. Stoen stated that he was angered at what he considered Dept.'s lack of concern for this case. He stated that promises had been made to him that Dept. would "forcefully intervene" if case were unnecessarily delayed which he feels has now happened. He stated Dept. is now breaking those promises.

I told Mr. Stoen that Dept. sympathized with his situation and regretted ~~xxxxxx~~ the time that had elapsed to date only to have the case reassigned. I explained Dept. policy of not intervening into the judicial proceedings of another country. The case is still in ~~xxxxxx~~ Guyana's legal system. Reemphasized Dept's concern and understanding of his situation.

Stoen expressed that he wants action not words. He stated that Dept. is "unsophisticated" if not to see "what's going on in Jonestown". Since Dept. is taking no forceful action, he is forced to use "self-help". He mentioned his intention to go to Guyana within two months to retrieve son by "force if necessary". He stated he realized that such action may be breaking laws of Guyana but he is left with no choice. He wished the Legal Advisor's office and Mr. Christopher's office to be aware of intention and rest of above info.

When all action is complete and his son returned, Mr. Stoen stated he will announce Dept's non-cooperation in his case and the lack of full investigation made at Jonestown.

10/4- Info'd F. Henneke, CA, by phone of above. He will inform Mr. Christopher's office.

10/5 - INFO'D ARA / R McCoy  
10/6 - C/CA - R. Henderson will call back



588

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR  
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AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, DLR  
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE 2201 C ST N W  
WASHINGTON DC 20520

YOU ARE HEREBY ADVISED I WILL RETRIEVE MY SON JOHN VICTOR STOEN  
ANY MEANS NECESSARY STOP STATE DEPARTMENT CONDUCT INEXCUSABLE STOP  
IGNORING MASS SUICIDE REHEARSALS DOCUMENTED BY BLAKEY AFFIDAVIT STOP  
VIOLATING PROMISE TO FORCIBLY REQUEST GUYANESE GOVERNMENT TO ORDER  
JONES TO RETURN MY CHILD STOP IGNORING SECTION 178 OF RESTATEMENT ON  
FOREIGN RELATIONS LAW STOP I REGRET EMBARRASSMENT TO YOU

TIMOTHY OLIVER STOEN  
120 MONTGOMERY ST SUITE 1700 SAN FRANCISCO CA 94104  
NNNN

91 EDT 3  
SECSTATE WSH  
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

SCS custody call  
10/2

ACTION SLIP

(Attachment Classification)

S/S CONTROL NUMBER

7819324

ACTION ASSIGNED TO: CA

DATE

10/5/78

(Action Office Instructions on Reverse)

ACTION REQUESTED

☐ STATE TO NSC MEMO  
☐ STATE TO

☐ with Draft reply for signature  
by \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ with Comment or Recommendation

☒ DIRECT REPLY

☐ provide info copy under cover  
of State-NSC transmittal form  
☐ provide comeback copy  
for \_\_\_\_\_

☐ REPLY FOR SIGNATURE  
BY \_\_\_\_\_

☐ RECOMMENDATION FOR \_\_\_\_\_  
with Memorandum for the President

☐ APPROPRIATE HANDLING

☐ FOR YOUR INFORMATION

DUE IN S/S BY: \_\_\_\_\_

CLEAR WITH: ARA

REMARKS/SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

D does not require comeback copy, but drafter should advise  
D-Marsha Barnes of substance of response. Perhaps this can be  
handled with a phone call.

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FROM: MARIE MORRIS

S/S-S:

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21522 28338 28348 28062

DECLASSIFIED

COMMUNICATIONS CONTROL RECORD		DATE RECEIVED	A
FROM			
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3—FOLLOWUP COPY		OPTIONAL FORM 102 (4-75)	OSD FORM 102 (41 CPT) 101-11.3

DECLASSIFIED

Send the following document packet to the Treasury Inspector's office, with the following information, which will be the only necessary information:

573

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Following is the text of a telegram I am sending to Rev. Jones:

I have listened to others who have told me that such concerns are exaggerated. They have been supportive of your church and your work. Your effort, involving so many Americans from a single U.S. geographic location is unique. In an effort to be responsive to these constituents with differing perspectives and to learn more about your church and its work, I intend to visit Guyana and talk with appropriate government officials. I do so as a part of my assigned responsibilities as a Member of the House Committee on International Relations. Congressman Ed Derwinski (R-Ill.), also a member of the committee and staff members of the committee will be accompanying me.

While we are in Guyana, I have asked our Ambassador, John Burke, to make arrangements for transportation to visit your church and agricultural station at Jonestown. It goes without saying that I am most interested in a visit to Jonestown, and would appreciate whatever courtesies you can extend to our Congressional delegation.

Please consider this letter to be an open and honest request to you for information about your work which has been the center of your life and purpose for so many years. In the interest of simplifying communications, it will only be necessary for you to respond to Ambassador John E. Burke at the American Embassy in Georgetown. Since the details of our trip are still being arranged, I am sure the Ambassador and his staff will be able to keep you informed.

I look forward to talking with you either in Jonestown or Georgetown.

Sincerely yours,

LEO J. NEAN  
Member of Congress

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

KENNETH F. MOLLINGS  
CHIEF OF BUREAU

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520  
TELEPHONE

MR. MOLLINGS, BUREAU  
CHIEF OF BUREAU, DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520

MR. MOLLINGS, BUREAU  
CHIEF OF BUREAU, DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520

MR. MOLLINGS, BUREAU  
CHIEF OF BUREAU, DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520

MR. MOLLINGS, BUREAU  
CHIEF OF BUREAU, DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520

2780-163-4547

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540

November 1, 1978

Mr. Douglas J. Bennet  
Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations  
Department of State  
2201 C Street, NW  
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Doug:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I received from Mr. Grace L. Stoen concerning her son. I would appreciate your looking into this matter and furnishing my office with a full report.

Many thanks for your cooperation.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Kenneth F. Mollings

Enclosure

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
RECEIVED BY	DATE
SUBJECT: MOLLINGS, DATE	
REASON(S)	
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REMARKS	
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OFFICE OF THE  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

0111000000

c/o Jeffrey A. Haas, Attorney at Law  
433 Turk Street  
San Francisco, California 94102

28 October 1978

Honorable Ernest P. Hollings  
United States Senate  
115 Russell Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

POY : 500

Dear Senator Hollings:

I write to request your assistance in securing the return of my six year old son who is being held in Guyana by a fanatical group of United States citizens known as the People's Temple. I have exhausted all judicial remedies available in Guyana. After a year of litigation, the Guyana courts have refused to rule on the habeas petition filed by my attorney.

I have repeatedly sought the aid of the State Department. In the past year, through my attorneys, I have protested a series of blatant denials of justice by the Guyana courts. Included in this series of violations of the most basic notion of due process have been flagrant governmental interference with the enforcement of a preliminary court order, excessive delay in the rendering of judgment and finally the refusal to render judgment. Please find enclosed copies of correspondence relating to these protests.

I believe that I am being denied justice in Guyana for two reasons: (1) the People's Temple, the fanatical group which holds my son is a large landowner which has poured a great deal of money into the country; and (2) the government fears reprisals if the court issues a ruling unfavorable to the People's Temple. Rather than risk upsetting this large group of fanatics, the courts have simply refused to rule.

I am informed that it is a basic principle of international law that a government has the duty to extend diplomatic protection to citizens whose rights have been violated. At stake here are the most basic of human rights. Yet the State Department has not shown the interest or concern that one routinely sees when the interests of United States corporations are short-changed by foreign governments.

Any effort you might make to persuade the State Department to assist me would be most appreciated.

Very truly yours,

*Grace L. Stoen*  
Grace L. Stoen

Enclosures.



## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D. C. 20520

November 7, 1978

MEMORANDUM TO THE FILESSubject: NBC Visist to Guyana

Mr. Halder the Charge d'Affaires at the Guyana Embassy in Washington telephoned me on November 7 to tell me that NBC Television had approached his Embassy about sending a television team of four to Guyana. NBC said they wished to leave for Guyana November 8 and had been in touch with the lawyer for the People's Temple, Mark Lane, regarding a visit. Halder said he was telephoning me to advise us of what he had told NBC in case NBC also contacted the State Department.

Halder said he told NBC that permission for the visist would have to be obtained from the Ministry of Information and Home Affairs in Georgetown.

He asked NBC to send his Embassy an official letter giving complete particulars of the proposed trip.

cc: L-TEfortune

Drafted:ANA/CAR:Gaffith:ab

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MEMO

Subj: Meeting Concerning Congressman Ryan's proposed  
visit to Guyana - 11-9-78

Present:

J. Spier	Cong. Ryan's Staff
T. Scollart	Gov't Operations Subcommittee (H-IRC)
R. Henderson	L/CA
T. Fortune	L/ARA
P. Hanneke	CA
J. Griffin	ARA/CAR
R. Belt	SCS
E. O'Kane	SCS
P. Donaldson	CA

Items Discussed:

Privacy Act implications - legal aspects: a right to request info exists - no right to demand it. Congressional Committee waiver to obtain info and limits on release of info after received explained. Private Privacy Act waiver - from individual explained. This waiver may limit release to specific persons - individual's right to privacy vis-a-vis public's right to know.

Access to Individuals - no right to force access if individual does not wish to see the requester. If individual wished to see visitor and P.T. refused to allow such, Dept. would make greater effort through GOC to facilitate access.

Treaty and Comity - expressed info. on Americans in Guyana and GOC assistance in this regard is based on comity. Believe no treaty giving absolute right to Cong Committee to see & speak with individuals in Guyana just because individuals are U.S. citizens and the visitors represent Cong Committee.

People's Temple Stipulations - P.T. has stated that Cong Ryan party will not be allowed to enter Jones-town unless it meets the following:

1. have someone in party sympathetic to P.T.
2. no media
3. M. Lane to be present  
(it appears that M.L. will not be there 11/14-11/18)

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COMPLAINTS BY CONG COMMITTEE TO GCG - Again comity discussed. Also Vienna convention and its purpose and limits. Point made by J. Griffin that if Cong not allowed in P.T. and complaints could ~~possibly~~ hamper AmEmbassy's future actions and rapore in re P.T. and GCG.

Freedom of Information Act and its relation to the Privacy Act explained.

Vienna Convention - and other appropriate citations would be provided by L.

Refusal - If not allowed to visit Jonastown letters from Cong could be left at AmEmbassy to check individual on next consular visit.

Logistics of Trip - physical difficulties in reaching P.T. discussed. A dangerous trip.

Practical Problems - This could be a no win situation. From J.J.'s point of view it could be either: to allow Cong party and for J.J. to point to his power and generosity - i.e. - theory "I have brought Cong to visit with U.S. citizens." or/ refuse Cong visit and state that Ryan and party part of USG conspiracy to destroy P.T.

Personality and Psychological aspects, mind control in such religious groups discussed. The difficulty in proving the individuals wish to leave group when they say they wish to stay was mentioned.

The members of the Cong party were invited back to discuss their findings.

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CA Press Background  
November 14, 1978

PEOPLE'S TEMPLE IN GUYANA

Congressman Leo Ryan (D-Calif.) departs today for Georgetown, Guyana, to investigate allegations of mind control, beatings, etc., by the People's Temple. The People's Temple is a religious/socialist organization headed by a former prominent California political figure, "Bishop" Jim Jones. The allegations of abuse, etc., have been made by former members of the People's Temple and by relatives of present members.

The actual People's Temple operation in Guyana is an agricultural commune out in the jungle. Approximately quarterly, a consular officer from the Embassy in Georgetown travels to the agricultural commune to perform the regular protection and welfare functions. To date, none of those persons the consul has interviewed at the People's Temple have been willing to confirm any of the allegations.

Supporters of the People's Temple have alleged a conspiracy by the USG against the People's Temple; opponents claim the USG is not living up to its responsibilities vis-a-vis the Americans in the People's Temple. The truth is in between. The USG is not investigating or conspiring against the People's Temple. The Department is simply performing its statutory and traditional functions. On the other hand, the Department and Embassy in Georgetown have no independent investigative authority and the consul's visits should not be taken as confirming or denying any allegations.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/ME

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE	
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520	
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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Subject: Ron Javers, San Francisco Chronicle reporter

Phil Burton called this morning to say that Javers, who had accompanied Ryan to Guyana for a visit to the People's Church Community, had been detained at the airport. Ryan asked me to call David Pearlman at the Chronicle for details.

Pearlman states that Javers had accompanied Ryan and twenty or so Californians to Guyana. Javers had written to the Guyanese Embassy (Cicely Douvieu) asking that Javers be accredited. Upon landing in Guyana Javers was detained ostensibly for carrying \$350.00 worth of Guyanese currency in violation of Guyanese currency regulations. All other members of the party were permitted to go to the hotel. Javers was detained and questioned.

Javers reached Doug Ellis at the Embassy. He also reached Pearlman and reported that this morning immigration authorities had gone to the hotel and picked up passports of other reporters travelling with Ryan. One of these is R. Reiterman of the San Francisco Examiner. Another is a freelance reporter, name unknown. According to Pearlman's account of Javers' report, the other reporters were told that they would be taken back to the airport.

Pearlman has been in touch with Miss Douvieu, who regrets these events and has promised to do what she can do, etc.

Pearlman says Ryan plans to go to the People's Church in the next day or two and he hopes the reporters will be able to accompany Ryan.

I passed this information on to John Griffith, ARA/CAR, with the recommendation that he ask the Embassy to ascertain the facts as quickly as possible.

*Cc. Byrne*

Douglas J. Bennet, Jr.

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CA Press Guidance  
November 15, 1978

CONGRESSMAN RYAN'S VISIT TO GUYANA

The Embassy in Georgetown has been authorized to make following statement available to media and concerned parents on "if asked" basis: QUOTE: The People's Temple community at Jonestown is a group of private American citizens who have chosen to come to Guyana as permanent or semi-permanent residents. As with private American citizens residing anywhere abroad, they are subject to the laws and regulations of the host country, in this case Guyana. The American Embassy in Georgetown has no official contact with the People's Temple other than the provision of normal consular services to the individual members of this community on a regular basis. These services include renewal of passports, registration of births, etc. The Embassy has no official authority over the community or its individual members. Except as provided for in the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations and in the bilateral consular convention that is in force between our two countries, the Embassy does not have any legal right to demand access to any private American citizen in Guyana. In light of this, the Embassy has no authority to require contacts between members of the People's Temple and persons whom they do not wish to receive. The members of the People's Temple are protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as are all American citizens. UNQUOTE.

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CA Press Guidance  
November 17, 1978

CONGRESSMAN RYAN'S VISIT  
TO GUYANA

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Q: Can you confirm that Congressman Leo Ryan (D-Calif.) is on a visit to Guyana?

A: Yes. Congressman Ryan left on an official visit to Guyana on November 14. The Embassy in Georgetown is providing support to the delegation.

Q: What is the purpose of Congressman Ryan's visit?

A: We understand that the Congressman went to Guyana to look into the People's Temple, an ~~an-apolitical~~ ~~organization located in Guyana~~ organization located in Guyana. For further details we suggest you contact Mr. Ryan's office.

Q: Who are the other members of the delegation?

A: The other official members of the delegation include a member of the Congressman's personal staff and a representative from the staff of the Government Operations Sub-Committee of the House International Relations Committee.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TRANSCRIPT OF SPECIAL NEWS BRIEFING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1978

10:00 A.M.

(ON THE RECORD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

MR. RESTON: All right, ladies and gentlemen..

First of all, let me apologize for being late. I have a statement to be read here, part of which has been handed out to you but part of which has not, and I would like to head through it.

The Department of State is shocked and deeply sorrowed by yesterday's tragic events at Port Kaituma, Guyana, which resulted in the deaths of Congressman Leo Ryan of the State of California and several others in his party, including members of a National Broadcasting Company news team and a photographer for the San Francisco Examiner.

Our Ambassador to Guyana, Mr. John Burke, has been in direct and continuous touch with Prime Minister Burnham of Guyana and other officials of the Guyanese Government who are similarly shocked and are taking all possible steps to apprehend the perpetrators of this crime.

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Congressman Ryan died trying to assist several Americans who apparently wanted to leave the religious community in Guyana.

Perhaps no lengthy eulogy is necessary other than to emphasize that Congressman Ryan died doing what he believed was the most important thing a Congressman or, indeed, any Government official could do -- that is, trying to help our citizens.

We also express our deepest condolences to the families of the journalists from the National Broadcasting Company and from the San Francisco Examiner who died while pursuing their profession in the highest traditions of American journalism.

The United States Government will continue to monitor this situation around the clock in order to provide all possible assistance to the Americans involved and to promptly respond to any requests for support from the Guyanese Government.

Now, I have a bit of a factual report for you here, and then I'd be happy to take any questions which you may have which are not covered by the various statements I will be making.

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Ambassador Burke informed a State Department Task Force that an Embassy Officer who accompanied the Guyanese authorities into Port Kaituma has confirmed the deaths of five members of the party traveling with Congressman Ryan: Congressman Ryan, Mr. Robert Brown of the National Broadcasting Company, Mr. Donald Harris of the National Broadcasting Company, Mr. Gregory Robinson -- a photographer for the San Francisco Examiner. There has also been another death, a death of an American female -- who I am not in a position to identify for you at the moment.

The Embassy in Georgetown has reported that six persons were injured, including our Deputy Chief of Mission -- Mr. Richard Dwyer -- who was slightly wounded.

Q Slightly, you say?

A Slightly injured.

It is my understanding Mr. Dwyer is ambulatory.

Other injured members traveling with Congressman Ryan are Jackie Speiers, Mr. Steven Sung of the National Broadcasting Company.

Q Who is Jackie Speiers?

A I'm sorry; I do not have an identification for Jackie Speiers. I will try to get that for you.

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MS. SCHUKER: She is a legislative assistant

to Congressman Ryan.

A I understand that she was on Congressman Ryan's staff.

And Mr. Antony Kataariz.

We have reports of two other unidentified victims who were injured.

Q Wait a minute; that's five.

Q Just Dwyer.

Q Including Dwyer. I'm sorry. Yes.

A No information has been received thus far about the extent of the injury of some of these wounded individuals. The Embassy still has not been able to confirm the reports which have been circulating that there may have been mass suicides. However, our Ambassador was assured by the Guyanese authorities that their forces would be getting to Jonestown, which is the location of the camp, as quickly as possible in order to determine what the situation on the ground is there.

We have been identifying next of kin.

I think the events transpired in the following manner, as best we have been able to piece it together during the early evening and late night and early morning

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hours:

At approximately 6:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, on November 18th, Embassy Georgetown reported in a flash cable to the Department of State that a delegation accompanying Congressman Ryan had apparently been attacked and struck by gunfire while returning from the Peoples Temple Agricultural Community in the remote northwest interior of Guyana in South America.

Let me show you on the map where these places are.

(Map.)

The capital is Georgetown, located on the coast here.

Approximately here is Port Kaituma, which is the nearest airstrip to Jonestown -- which is the location of the camp.

Congressman Leo Ryan, who is a Democrat of California, had traveled to Guyana to investigate allegations by relatives that some members of the Peoples Temple Community were being held against their will. Ryan was accompanied by a number of journalists -- including a television camera crew from the National Broadcasting

DE LAMINATED

Company based out of San Francisco, as well as other journalists. He was also accompanied by the Deputy Chief of Mission of our Embassy in Georgetown -- Mr. Richard Dwyer -- and he was accompanied by Mr. Lane, Esquire, and another attorney, who are counsel for the Peoples Temple.

The group traveled to Port Kaituma, which is the nearest airstrip to the Peoples Temple Community. It is about 145 miles northwest of Georgetown. The group traveled by chartered aircraft on the afternoon of November 17th. They spent the night at Jonestown -- the night of November 17th to the 18th. They returned to the airstrip at Kaituma on the afternoon of November 18th. They were accompanied by some six to ten members of the Peoples Temple Community who apparently wished to leave the Community. The party was in the act of boarding two chartered aircraft which had been obtained for the trip back to Georgetown when one of the supposed members of the Community who wished to leave produced a gun and began to shoot at others who were leaving. This was in the smaller of two aircraft on the field at that time.

This aircraft I am speaking of quickly emptied,

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except for a young woman who was seriously wounded.

At about the same time, a flatbed trailer pulled by a tractor appeared on the airstrip. A number of people in the trailer opened fire on Congressman Ryan and his immediate party, who were in the process of boarding the second aircraft. The gunfire also disabled this aircraft so that it could not take off.

The first aircraft took off with its own crew, the young woman who had been wounded, and the aircrew of the second aircraft; and they scrambled aboard at the last minute.

Early reports on these events were unclear and based entirely on the account of the incident which was given by the two aircrews when they returned to Georgetown.

The Government of Guyana reacted swiftly under the personal direction of its Prime Minister. Unfortunately, the incident at Port Kaituma took place at sundown. Hence, it was impossible for the Guyanese reaction forces to go there directly because the airstrip at Port Kaituma is unlighted. There are no night landing lights.

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The Guyanese forces proceeded to establish themselves at an airstrip called Mathews Ridge, which is about 30 miles from Port Kaituma (indicating on map), where the incident took place. Their intention was to move into the area at first light. Our Ambassador in Georgetown has been in constant and continuing touch with the Prime Minister and with various organs of his government, including the security forces.

A crisis management team was immediately formed here in the Department of State under the direction of Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs -- Mr. Brandon Grove -- and the Director of the Office for Caribbean Affairs -- Mr. Ashley Hewitt. The White House Situation Room and the National Military Command Center were immediately informed, as was the Deputy Secretary of State -- Mr. Warren Christopher -- the National Security Council, and the Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations -- Mr. Douglas Bannet. The National Military Command Center agreed to provide a C-141 medical evacuation aircraft with full medical complement. In addition to the full medical complement, our Embassy had requested a medical pathologist to be

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on board, and there was one on board. The aircraft originally left McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey and stopped off in Charleston, South Carolina, leaving there at 3:00 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, and arrived about 8:00 o'clock in the morning at Georgetown -- and that's Eastern Standard Time.

As of 6:00 o'clock this morning, Eastern Standard Time, there are sketchy reports of casualties; but I have previously confirmed for you that Congressman Ryan is reported -- and that report, unfortunately, is confirmed -- that he has been killed -- along with the other people whose names I mentioned, in addition to the one additional American female national.

In addition, I want to report that there are reports -- as yet unconfirmed -- that members of the Peoples Temple Community in Guyana are perhaps engaging in mass suicides. The Guyanese police in Georgetown report that a woman who ran the Peoples Temple office there has killed her three children and taken her own life. Another Peoples Temple member, who says he escaped from the Community and walked 20 miles to Mathews Ridge, reported that some 200 members of that Community had already taken their lives when he was leaving.

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I want to emphasize to you that we have not confirmed these reports.

There are approximately 1100 United States citizens resident at the Temple Community -- the Peoples Temple Community. In addition, the possibility exists that Peoples Temple members here in the United States who number some 3,000 -- mostly resident in the State of California -- may also begin to take their own lives.

The State Department Task Force has been in touch with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the police departments of the Cities of San Francisco and Los Angeles, California -- this was at about 2:30 this morning, Eastern Standard Time -- to inform them of this possibility.

Q Now, did the State Department inform the police of this responsibility?

A Yes.

Q Why would the State Department know more about this than the police in California, who presumably have greater contact with them?

A Well, I think that the reason is that probably we have had greater contact with the members of the

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Temple in Guyana as opposed to California.

Let me just finish up here and then I'll take any questions you may have.

Our Ambassador -- Mr. John Burke -- has made clear to Prime Minister Burnham of Guyana are the following -- and I may say that we have every indication that the Government of Guyana is cooperating splendidly.

- We want to make sure that every effort is made to get into Port Kaituma to furnish aid, assistance, and protection to Americans who may still be there.

- Second, we want to see that the injured are brought out to Georgetown as soon as possible.

- And, third, of course: the perpetrators of this crime and this outrage be brought to justice as soon as possible.

Let me say, finally, that this has been a very sad situation. It has created enormous and understandable humanitarian interest. And in order to deal with the situation as humanely and as efficiently as possible, additional personnel from the Department of State are being airlifted into Georgetown to help deal with the situation. They are coming from Panama, from Venezuela, and from Trinidad.

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Do you have questions?

Q Tom, do we have --

Q I'd like to ask you if --

Q Do we have a treaty with Guyana?

A I'll take that question.

Q Tom, could you clear up one thing? You said there were five dead. Can you say that the fifth dead is not one of the people you're listing as wounded -- just so that we don't go out with a report saying somebody's who wounded is in fact dead?

A Yes.

Q The person -- the fifth dead person -- is not one of those you're listing as wounded --

A That is correct.

Q -- not the woman in the plane and not Jackie Spaiers.

A That is correct.

Q Tom, do I understand you to say that nothing is being done by our Government in a way to try to prevent any further mass suicides by the members of this group?

A No; that is incorrect to state that.

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First of all, we have informed the authorities in San Francisco and in Los Angeles about this possibility; and we hope that the authorities in San Francisco and Los Angeles will take steps which will help prevent such an occurrence.

Second of all, we are making every effort to assist the Guyanese forces, who are at this time on their way to Jonestown, to assess the situation in order -- hopefully -- to prevent such an occurrence.

Q Tom --

A Yes.

Q -- do you have anything further on the whereabouts of Mark Lane or is it being assumed that he was one of those led into the bush?

A We have no information about the present physical situation or status of Mr. Lane. What we are really engaged in here -- here in Washington -- and the burden is falling primarily on the Guyanese authorities, the Guyanese police and the Guyanese security forces -- is to get into the area where the incident took place at Port Kaituma and also to get into the area at Jonestown, where the Community is resident. And I gather it takes --

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about 20 minutes over a dirt road to get from the airport at Port Kaituma to the Jonestown Community.

To establish just exactly what the facts are -- what happened, who survived, who is in need of medical attention, where they are -- we just don't have enough reporting at this time. It is my understanding that Guyanese forces in company strength -- which I gather is about 150 personnel -- are on the way there now.

Q Tom, according to --

Q What is the state of your information here? As near as I can tell, you've had no direct contact with this group since the smaller aircraft got out and yet you're able to confirm deaths and so forth. What has been the contact with that situation overnight, if any?

A Well, as I said before, the airstrip at Port Kaituma is an unlighted airstrip. It was impossible to get into the airstrip during the night. Dawn came about 5:00 a.m. this morning, and at that point the beginnings of the Guyanese forces were able to get in there; and so our reports come from the Guyanese authorities, but we have not had --

Q Tom, is that strip --

A Excuse me, John -- if I could finish.

Q Yes.

A We have not had a full assessment from the Guyanese authorities nor from our own personnel.

Q Just --

A Yes, John.

Q -- to follow that up, you don't have a report that two Guyanese helicopters were sent there during the night and that there were --

A That is not my information.

Q So where does the confirmation come from, Tom?

A The confirmation comes from Guyanese authorities who are beginning to get into the area.

Q But according to your count, Tom, you give us five members of the delegation have died, six persons were injured. According to your count, how many are unaccounted for?

A I have an unofficial passenger list here of those who went in on the aircraft with Congressman Ryan: the Congressman, a Miss Jackie Speier, Mark Lane,

Charles Garry -- who is also an attorney, I gather, an attorney for the Peoples Temple -- Mr. Richard Dwyer, who I have previously mentioned is the Deputy Chief of Mission of our Embassy; Mr. Don Harris; Mr. Bob Flick of NBC-TV in San Francisco; Mr. Ron Javers of the San Francisco Chronicle; Mr. Tim Reiterman of the San Francisco Examiner; Mr. Charles Krouse of The Washington Post; Mr. Gregory Robinson, a photographer for the San Francisco Examiner; Mr. Steven Sung of NBC-TV; and Mr. Robert Brown, also obviously of NBC.

Also there were present a representative of the Ministry of Information of the Guyanese Government-- I do not have a name for you -- plus four, approximately four, people identified as relatives of members of the Peoples Temple Community. So the ones whose names I have not mentioned are still unaccounted for.

Q Tom --

Q How about all of these --

[Cont'd on pg. B-1.]

Q Tom, I wonder if I could pursue with you a question of what kind of advice was given to Congressman Ryan and his group before they left. Based on an answer that you have already given, you clearly had some experience with this commune, knew of them to be of a somewhat violent bent. Had, in fact, Congressman Ryan spoken to anyone here? Had you given him any advice with regard to going or not going?

A I believe the Congressman did receive a briefing prior to his trip to Guyana. He left here on the 14th of November, by the way. I do not -- and I wish to state this -- I do not have a characterization to offer you on the characteristics of the Peoples Temple.

Q Did the embassy in Guyana discourage --

Q What do you mean, you don't have a characterization? Here is an group about which you hear that you can call up the FBI and the police officials in California to tell them that these people have threatened mass suicide if anyone tries to move against them, but you don't have any characterization of them?

A I think what we are most concerned with here, Ted, is the specific factual situation of what

happened during the shooting incident at Port Kaituma.

I am not going to characterize thousands of members of a particular community. I will characterize the perpetrators of the crimes which apparently were committed there. But I will not characterize the entire sect or organization and every single member of it.

Q Tom, this characterization, the comment that you have in here about threatening mass suicide, I think what Ted is asking is, is that information that has come to you since the incident, or is it that since the incident you pulled that information out of a file?

A It is my understanding that there had been discussion of such a possibility prior to this incident -- taking place early yesterday afternoon by members of the community.

Q Tom, you seem to be drawing a line between the perpetrators and the Peoples Temple. Do you have any reason to believe that the individuals -- and also to the statement that says apparently members of the Peoples Temple -- do you have any reason to believe that the perpetrators may have been someone other than members of that sect?

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A What I have reason to believe is that the investigation is proceeding, that the Guyanese authorities are entering the area, that what we need to do most of all now is to find out what actually happened, and to protect and safeguard human lives.

Q Tom, do you know how many of the 1,100 people are children?

A I do not know. I will take that question.

Q Tom, can you run down the embassy --

Q Tom, I don't understand the list. Can we just nail down the list? The list is the names of the people who went in?

A The list I have just read to you is the unofficial passenger list of the chartered aircraft which went from Georgetown, Guyana, to the airstrip at Port Kaituma, went on to Jonestown, Guyana, overnighted there, and came back to the airport at Port Kaituma, and were prepared to go back to Georgetown when the incident occurred.

Q Do you have the names of the members -- of the relatives?

A I have -- I am not in a position to identify them for you.

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Q One more question. Do you have the name of the fifth person you believe is dead and you are withholding it because you have not notified relatives, or what?

A That is precisely correct.

Q Tom, can you account for us the role of the embassy in Georgetown from the time Ryan arrived? My understanding, and I want to be corrected on this if it is not correct, is that they strongly tried to discourage Ryan from making this trip.

A I don't have that precise a characterization for you. I know that Congressm. Ryan received briefings here at the Department before he left the United States on November 14th. I know that when Congressman Ryan and his delegation arrived in Guyana, the embassy was supporting logistically his mission down there. I know that the Deputy Chief of Mission, who is the number two person in our embassy, accompanied Congressman Ryan and his party to Jonestown. But I do not have a characterization such as you describe.

Q Just to round this out a bit, do you know what kind of planes these were?

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A It is my understanding that one of the planes was a Cessna. That is the smaller of the aircraft. I do not have the type or model or make of the larger aircraft, which I gather could seat rather more people than the Cessna could.

Q What is the distance from Port Kaituma to Georgetown, Tom, do you know?

A I don't know what the distance is. I think I previously said that it takes twenty minutes by jeep over a dirt road, which was made by the members of the Peoples Temple.

Now I want to say that this is in an area which is often subject to heavy rainfalls, and I do not know what the weather in Port Kaituma or in Jonestown is today, and therefore I cannot tell you how long it might take to travel that dirt road.

Q Tom, to make sure I have got one thing straight. You were saying that you are not prepared to say whether the State Department encouraged or discouraged the Congressman from making the trip in the first place in the briefing that he was given before he left here.

A That is precisely correct.

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B-6

Q Tom, I just want to make sure I follow this thing correctly. You say that of the injured people, one was aboard the aircraft that left, a young woman.

A Yes, that is correct.

Q In other words, it doesn't say here, but I assume then that all of the other people who were injured spent the night out in this area in some way, and their status was determined in the morning when the first Guyanese forces arrived on the scene?

A You assume correctly, except that I want to add the caveat that we really do not have full reports yet, so I am not sure --

Q According to the best information you have now.

A That is correct.

Q Tom, is the total number eighteen? That is what I get from your listing who went in.

A I haven't counted them up here. The total number who might have been at the airport would include the total number who went in on the chartered aircraft, plus the six to ten who apparently wished to leave the community and exit from the area to go to Georgetown.

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Q Tom, this question is not asked in an accusatory fashion at all, but I really don't understand why you cannot say whether Congressman Ryan and his party were encouraged or discouraged from making the trip. It seems to me that you had information available that would cause you to discourage him from making the trip. Did the Department not do so?

A I am not in a position to get into the content of our briefing of the Congressman.

Q Can you tell us whether or not there have been previous incidents involving Americans and the Peoples Temple in Port --

A In Jonestown?

Q In Guyana or wherever?

A Are you speaking of incidents of violence?

Q Incidents of any kind that would give you a background and an understanding of the Peoples Temple.

A I think I have indicated that the purpose which Congressman Ryan gave in going down to Guyana was that there had been reports by some relatives of the people who were resident at the Jonestown camp --

Q They were reports to the Congressman, were they not?

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A The Congressman had received reports, apparently, from relatives of American citizens resident at Jonestown, Guyana, that they were being held there against their will. Now, that is a tort of a sort, and I think the Congressman was down there to investigate those allegations.

Q Had the State Department been aware of such allegations prior to yesterday's incidents?

A Yes. Allegations of being held there against their will.

Q You had gotten complaints directly from the parents, in other words?

A I believe so. If we had not had them directly from the parents -- I believe so. I think I can say that is correct.

Q Were these taken up, Tom, with the Government of Guyana, prior to this incident?

A We have discussed with the Government of Guyana the situation of some of these Americans in Jonestown.

Q Tom, has the Government of Guyana asked for your help in deporting this community?

A Not that I am aware of.

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Q What does your previous answer mean, Tom, that you had discussed it with the Government of Guyana. It now seems as though we are doing nothing but throwing heaping praise on the Government of Guyana for their extraordinary cooperation in the past 24 hours.

A That is exactly what I am trying to do.

Q And what I would like to know is what kind of cooperation you received in the period prior to those 24 hours, and whether indeed the United States had asked for and received assistance in trying to find out whether American citizens were being held against their will by other American citizens?

A I am not sure that we have asked questions along those lines. We have discussed certain court proceedings in Guyana. For instance, as an example, child custody cases which were under the jurisdiction of the Guyanese courts. We have discussed judicial procedures in such cases with the Government of Guyana.

But, really, if the people resident at Jonestown were breaking no Guyanese law, that really is a matter for the Government of Guyana to decide.

Q Tom, can you tell us roughly how far back

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it was before the State Department became aware of complaints involving this community, and also whether any representatives, consular officials or other representatives of our embassy in Georgetown had visited the community at any point?

A I cannot answer your first question because I do not know, but I can answer your second question, and the answer is that consular officials of the American Embassy in Guyana periodically had visited American citizens resident at Jonestown for normal consular types of purposes, such as, registration of births and general health inspections, the normal kinds of things that consular officers would do for American citizens resident abroad any place in the world.

Q What kind of health inspections are you talking about, Tom?

Q In other words, is no cases in connection with these complaints or there were no reports of somebody out there saying, "Help, I am being held against my will", or something like this?

A I am not aware of any.

Q What do you mean by health inspection, Tom? What is a health inspection that you normally carry out?

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A Maybe I should retract that. Maybe not.  
I retract the health inspections.

Q What do you mean by that?

A Well, I was trying to figure out examples of normal consular services, and I was incorrect. But I am correct as a normal consular service being the registration of birth.

Q Do you have anything on the kinds of weapons these people were attacked with? Were they hand guns, automatic, semi-automatic?

A I do not.

Q Tom, the C-141 medical evac plane, is it going to be coming back to the States carrying the wounded, and, if so, where is it going to be and when?

A That is unclear at this point. A decision will be made at the point of departure based on a number of factors.

First of all, the condition of the wounded on board the aircraft. In other words, how soon they need to reach medical attention in a hospital. Second of all, on the availability of jet fuel at Georgetown.

Those decisions have not been reached. I can

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tell you that the options include going to Howard Air Force Base in Panama or coming directly back here to Andrews Air Force Base in suburban Maryland.

Q Do you know when you will have updated information?

A I wanted to ask you all about that? Would it be useful to you to have another briefing at four o'clock this afternoon? Should we have further reports from the Guyanese authorities at that time?

Q Yes. You will have further reports.

A Why don't we say, then, four o'clock this afternoon, if that is a mutually agreeable time.

Let me run through some other notes I have here to see whether there is anything else I can provide to you.

Q Tom, can you just clarify one thing on the C-141? Were there only Red Cross people on that, or were there also some State Department consular or any military people aboard that plane?

A I am aware of no State Department people who were on board that plane. It is with a medical complement; i.e., medical personnel along with a pathologist.

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which was requested specifically by our embassy in Georgetown at the request of the Guyanese authorities.

Q Did they take any security?

A And I am not aware of any security which they may have taken on the plane.

Q So no American military personnel have been assigned?

A I believe this is an Air Force plane, and I would assume that it is being flown by the Air Force, and therefore there are military personnel on board. I will take the question as to whether any security personnel of the U.S. armed forces are on that plane. I am not aware of any.

Q Did I understand you correctly, if the C-141 takes off, medical needs and gas are such that it can get out, get farther away, will either go to Panama or here? There are no other -- ?

A I don't want to foreclose any option, but the contingency planning earlier this morning was that depending on the availability of jet fuel at Georgetown, and depending on the condition of the victims of this incident, that they would either go to Howard Air Force

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Base in Panama or to Andrews Air Force Base here.

Q Is the preference to bring them here, Tom?  
Is that the first?

A That is a preference, but that is going to be totally subject to what the medical officers and logistical officers find in Georgetown.

Q When will you know that, because I think that would be a decision that we would like to know as early as possible?

A Yes, sir, I understand your interest in the matter. I do not know when we will know that. I think we will only know that shortly prior to the take-off of the aircraft, but we would be glad to post an estimated time of arrival and place of arrival, obviously of that C-141 medical evacuation.

Q Can you tell us how soon we will know whether there will be that four o'clock briefing.

A There will be the four o'clock briefing.  
We know now.

Can you hold on a moment? I have a further statement to make, not regarding Guyana. Can we see whether we can get the people back in the briefing room

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who have left? This is a statement on another matter, but which we feel is important to make.

Ladies and gentlemen, I have a statement to make. Unfortunatley, I am in a position of not being able to be responsive to any follow-up questions you may have on this statement, but I wish to make a statement for the record.

It is a statement on behalf of the Secretary of State, Mr. Cyrus Vance.

As President Carter has indicated, the United States does not intend to interfere in the internal affairs of any other country, and reports to the contrary are totally without foundation.

We expect other countries to conduct themselves in similar fashion, and we note that the Soviet Union has said yesterday that it will not interfere in the affairs of Iran and will respect its territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence.

As we have said, we firmly support the Shah in his efforts to restore domestic tranquility in Iran, and we have confidence that Iran can solve its own problems. We intend to preserve and pursue with Iran our strong bilateral political, economic and security relationship. Thank you.

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Q Tom, will you be in a position to have any answers on that later in the day, or to be more responsive on that?

A I could be, yes. Let me ask Mr. Vance about it.

Q Thank you.

[The briefing concluded at 11:07 a.m.]

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UNCORRECTED TRANSCRIPT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TRANSCRIPT OF SPECIAL NEWS BRIEFING  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1978, 4:00 P.M.  
(ON THE RECORD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

MR. RESTON: Good afternoon.

I want to try to give you a little bit of an update on where we stand on the tragic incidents which took place yesterday in Guyana. I think, essentially now, we are through Phase One of this operation, Phase One being essentially the outgrowth of the incidents in Guyana yesterday when the people were killed and wounded. Essentially, what we have is a figure of five persons dead, ten wounded, two of them seriously, and one slightly wounded who did not come out of Guyana. The person who was only slightly injured and who is ambulatory, as I said this morning, is the Deputy Chief of Mission of the United States Embassy in Guyana. His name is Mr. Richard Dwyer, and he has remained behind.

Q Are you counting him among the ten?

A I am counting him among the ten wounded.

Q Richard Dwyer?

A D-w-y-e-r.

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The pathologist I mentioned this morning who went down on the C-141 from the United States has remained behind to assist the Guyanese authorities as they begin to conduct their investigations into the crimes which were apparently committed.

We have now not quite entered into the next phase of this series of occurrences, which is essentially what is going on now in Jonestown, Guyana. The Guyanese security forces and police forces which I was talking with you about this morning, have not yet reached Jonestown. They are not there yet. They are presently on that dirt road which runs from the air strip to the settlement at Jonestown. They are proceeding up the road. I do not have an estimated time of arrival for you. They are proceeding on foot; they are proceeding cautiously; and I just don't have an estimate for you on when they might reach there.

Q How far is that, Tom?

A It takes in a jeep, in dry weather, twenty minutes.

Q Is it wet down there?

A I do not know what the weather down there is

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that particular part of Guyana is today, I'm sorry.

The bodies of the people who lost their lives at the airport are remaining behind in Guyana at the moment.

Q In Georgetown?

A No. They are last reported at the air strip. We believe that they will be transported to Georgetown as soon as possible.

Questions?

Q Is the Embassy officer going in with the troops to Jonestown?

A You mean is the Deputy Chief of Mission --

Q No. I understand it was an Embassy officer who flew out with them to Mathews Ridge and then into the air strip this morning, to Port Kaituma, an officer of the U.S. Embassy.

A I do not know whether an officer from the U.S. Embassy is accompanying the security forces which are making their way towards Jonestown. I will take that question. The Deputy Chief of Mission remains at the airstrip and is expected to depart shortly, if he has not done so already, for Georgetown.

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Q Without getting into anything accusatory, they have been on the ground there now for nearly twelve hours.

A Yes.

Q It's just a twenty-minute jeep ride away. What is the explanation or the reason that they haven't gotten into Jonestown yet?

A I'm not sure what the situation on the ground is. I'm not sure whether there are vehicles available for them to use. I do not know whether there is motor fuel available there for the vehicles should they wish to use them. It's my understanding that they are proceeding on foot; they are proceeding cautiously. There is at least, given the events of yesterday, the possibility that hostile action could conceivably take place, although I hasten to add right away, we have no reports of any hostile action at this time. But I think that the Guyanese are proceeding cautiously.

Q Are we satisfied with the way they have gone about this?

A Yes.

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Q Tom, we have heard of some people who are unidentified who are not among the dead or the wounded. How many are there and what is the process of going about looking for them?

A I think that we were talking about a number of people at the airport this morning who were there during the incidents. I think we were talking about around 18 or 20 who had originally come in on the flight from Georgetown, another six to ten who had indicated that they apparently wanted to leave the settlement at Jonestown, so what you're really talking about there is 25, 26, 27 people. We have accounted at the present time for 15 of them. We have no reports on the others.

Q You have ten missing, essentially?

A Ten that I don't have any reports to offer you on.

Q Do you have any more reports of suicides?

A No. I am not able at this time to confirm for you the report by the Guyanese police on the suicide of the woman in Georgetown, nor the death of the three

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children in Georgetown.

As to what may be taking place in the State of California, in Los Angeles and in San Francisco, I have heard reports from at least San Francisco that nothing outward seems to be going on there at the moment, but really I am not your best source on that, and I refer you to the police departments of those two cities.

Q Tom, the one report of suicides at Jonestown, that is the one from the fellow who went overland last night to Mathews Ridge, and that's it, as far as you know?

A Let me try to -- There was a report of a suicide in Georgetown.

Q Right.

A And connected with that suicide was the death of three children. That is one incident. There is a report which has been made by a former member of the Peoples Temple Community at Jonestown, who escaped and went to Mathews Ridge last night. He has delivered a report to Guyanese authorities about mass suicides in

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Jonestown. We have not yet been able to talk with the person who made that report. Therefore, I am not able to offer you any independent confirmation of that through U.S. officials, and obviously, not through the security forces which have not yet arrived at Jonestown.

Q Tom, did you release the names that took us from six this morning to ten? Do you have names to make that ten wounded?

A I'm sorry, I'm not in a position to offer you the names of the additional wounded. Let me say with regard to where we stand on the evacuation, the C-141 plane, which I mentioned to you this morning, took off from Georgetown, Guyana, at 12:56 EST. At just about 3:30 EST this afternoon it landed at Roosevelt Roads in Puerto Rico. Some of the most seriously wounded are being taken off the plane there so that they can receive medical attention -- medical attention in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The rest of the evacuees will be flown from Roosevelt Roads to Andrews Air Force Base in suburban, Maryland. I do not an estimated time of arrival for that.

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C-141 for you at this time.

Q Has it taken off in Puerto Rico?

A It has not taken off, to my knowledge.

Q How many were taken off in Puerto Rico?

A The intention was to take off two in Puerto Rico, but I do not know -- that medical judgment could have been updated since the time I was given it, so I do not know how many actually have been taken off.

Q --which would leave, what, Tom, seven, then? You've got one left in --

A That would leave seven wounded on the plane which will be on its way to Andrews.

Q Could you confirm that an American has been arrested in connection with the killings?

A I have heard that report, but I am not in a position to confirm it for you.

Q What was the question?

A The question was, could I confirm a report that an American has been arrested in connection with the alleged killings, and I cannot confirm that report for you.

Q -- Tom, can you tell us who is still missing? Are both the attorneys among the missing?

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A It is my understanding that both the attorneys who are counsel for the Peoples Temple Community are presently in Jonestown, Guyana.

Q They are not missing in Jonestown?

A It is my understanding that they are accounted for and that they are presently in Jonestown.

Q Does it follow that they went off on the flatbed truck or some such thing?

A No, it does not follow.

Q Were they at the airport or did they go back to the hotel?

A It is my understanding they were at the airport and that they are presently back in Jonestown.

Q How do we know that? How do we know that they are in Jonestown? We have absolutely no knowledge of what else is going on in Jonestown. Do we know that the two of them are there?

A It is my understanding that they are in Jonestown. I do not have a source for my information.

Q Tom, to get back to the original question, who is missing?

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A All I can say is that I gave you a list this morning of the people who were on the original passenger list going into the airstrip and into Jonestown. I am just going to have to ask you to compare the list which I gave you this morning with the ones which I have accounted for.

Q Tom, I'm sorry -- you've been extremely cautious --

A Ted, I'm sorry. Les.

Q That's all right. I'll yield to Ted, and then --

A No, go ahead, Les.

Q Is the Secretary aware that the Rev. Mr. Jones was made the head of the City Housing Authority by San Francisco's Democratic Mayor Mosconi, a protege of Congressman Burton?

A I don't know.

Q And during the Presidential Campaign of 1976--

A I've answered your question.

Q Wait a minute. I haven't finished it, Tom.

A I've answered your question.

Ted, go ahead.

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Q Could I, please --

A Mr. Koppel.

Q Why not let Las finish it?

Q Yes.

A I do not know whether the Secretary was aware of it.

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Q All right. Is he aware that Jones was asked aboard Vice President Mondale's chartered jet in the Presidential campaign, that he shared a platform with Rosalynn Carter?

A I don't know.

Q Will we ask for the Reverend Mr. Jones' extradition?

A I don't know.

Q Tom, how close --

A I'm sorry. Mr. Koppel was next.

Q Tom, since you were very cautious about the mass suicides that may or may not be going on in Jonestown, I'm just wondering how it is that you know -- and you do appear to know; I mean you're not couching it in your usual cautious language -- that both these attorneys are now in Jonestown. Do you have knowledge of anything that is going on in Jonestown?

A I'm sorry. The full investigation obviously is going to have to be taken, carried out, by the security forces which are on their way to Jonestown and which have not yet arrived there.

Q Well --

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A Now, just a minute, please.

That is not to say that we have no information. Obviously we believe that the two attorneys at this time are in Jonestown.

Q Well --

A I don't have a sourcing for our information for you.

Q Tom, that's fine -- excuse me, if I could just follow up my own question. You know that and that the issue, which seems far more overriding at the moment, is whether or not 200 suicides or anything like it have taken place in Jonestown. You have no information at all on that?

A I have no information beyond the information which I just went over with you, and I sourced that information for you. I have no further information to offer on what may have occurred last night or yesterday afternoon in Jonestown.

Q Tom --

A Yes, sir.

Q Tom, have you talked or have Guyanese officials, U. S. officials, been in contact with either attorney in

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Jonestown by phone?

A I don't believe so.

Q You don't know that they haven't.

A You are correct. I do not know that we have not.

Q You have no idea where this report comes from then, is that what you said?

A I am not in a position to give you a source on the report.

Q Well, did they stay behind yesterday?

A Did they stay behind yesterday?

Q In Jonestown -- which would explain their being there.

A You mean without going to the airport.

Q To the airfield, yes.

A It was my understanding that they had gone to the airport, but I will check myself and correct the record if I am wrong about that.

Yes, sir.

Q Can we assume that neither of the attorneys was wounded? Do you information on that?

A I have received no reports that either of

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of the attorneys was wounded. On the other hand,  
I simply do not have any information about their physical  
condition. But I have received no reports that they  
were wounded.

Q Tom --

A Yes, sir.

Q Back to --

Q How close are we to identifying that fifth  
death?

A I am not sure that the next of kin has  
yet been notified.

Q I mean will we know before the day is  
out? Will there be some --

A I don't know. I will check on that for you.

Q Is she a member of a sect or not?

A I am not going to get into that until  
we have notified the next of kin.

Yes, sir.

Q Back on couple of things from this  
morning. If the State Department was aware of complaints  
before all this happened from parents of youngsters who  
apparently -- who might have been mistreated there -- did

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the State Department ever take any action to stop it or ~~actively~~ at least investigate that possibility?

Yes. It's one of those things that I wanted to clear up from this morning. In fact, I had a list. I went back through the transcript to see areas that I thought were somewhat confused. Unfortunately, I don't have my list in front of me here.

But let's go to this question. First of all I was asked what proportion of the settlement at Jonestown was children versus adults. It is our understanding that are some 1,000 or 1,100 Americans resident at Jonestown, Guyana. Of those I have seen varying reports, but some 50 or 60 might be described as children. And by "children" I want to define this carefully because I mean children under 14 years old who are readily identified as adolescent or pre-adolescent children.

Now, I cannot give you an approximate number for people who might be in their twenties; and that might have been part of, kind of, the definition of "children."

But that becomes increasingly difficult to identify.

But the best figure I can give you -- and it's really a guessimate -- is 50 or 60 children

A Now, just let me -- can I finish with the gentleman's question, please?

Q Go on.

A Now, you ask further: What, if any, was the nature of our role in looking into this matter?

State Department consular officials, as I said this morning, did visit Jonestown, Guyana, on a periodic basis -- once a month or once every six weeks.

Q Consular officials?

A Consular officials.

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Now, I was asked this morning when the State Department first became aware of complaints that people were being held there against their will, and I was also asked whether the State Department had become directly aware of this.

The answer is that the State Department has been directly aware from American citizens of such complaints. And when such complaints began to reach us -- the answer to that question is the first of this year. So it's been about a year ago, less than a year ago.

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During the course of these visits -- which were made for normal consular purposes -- to see whether, for instance, Social Security benefits were being received; to see that births were being registered as they occurred -- when we received complaints from relatives in the United States that, conceivably, people were being kept in Jonestown, Guyana, against their will, we attempted, as best we could, through our Consular Officers, to ascertain whether this was true. We attempted to talk with the individuals whose names we have been provided by their relatives here in the United States to see whether they believe they were being held against their will.

We attempted to do this, whenever we could, privately with the individuals named in the letters we had received from their relatives here in the United States.

Q Did you ever have contact with any of them?

A Yes. Our Consular Officers did.

Q Were there complaints that they made and, if so, were the complaints ever followed up?

A To my knowledge, no resident of Jonestown

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ever admitted to a State Department Consular Officer that they were being held in Jonestown against their will.

Q Tom, you say these consular visits were monthly?

A Yes -- I think the frequency varied. We would go in there periodically, as we probably would in any similar situation where you have a large concentration of United States nationals resident in a foreign country.

Q One other follow-up, if you will, please:

Any more on what we discussed this morning about briefings that Congressman Ryan might have received either here or advice he might have received in Guyana before making the journey? Was he warned not to go by anyone in the Government that you're aware of?

A Yes; I think I can clear that up. It was a matter of some confusion, and I apologize for this morning's briefing. But I have checked that out further and I really invite other questions which you were unclear about this morning because I did seek further elucidation.

I just don't have my list in front of me; but to respond to your specific question, it is my understanding that Congressman Ryan was in the Department of State in

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August for a briefing. It is my understanding that he came back to the Department of State very shortly before his visit to Guyana, which began on November 14th.

Congressman Ryan, by virtue of the constituency which he represents, was aware of the allegations made by certain of his constituents with regard to the Community in Guyana.

I would not say that it would be fair to characterize those briefings as warning him not to go. I think the substance of what was discussed was more or less as the following:

I think, for the part of the State Department, we indicated to the Congressman that we recognized that it was part of his duty to render service to his constituents. And this was a problem which some of his constituents perceived and Congressman Ryan was behaving in a public-spirited manner in trying to track down those complaints. We offered to render assistance and, in fact, did render assistance to Congressman Ryan during his journey in Guyana. As I mentioned this morning, even the No. 2 man in our Embassy accompanied the Congressman as he went to Jonestown.

Now, having said that, I will say that the State

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Department urged caution upon Congressman Ryan. And we did, in a logistical sense, indicate to him the logistical difficulties of taking a large entourage of people into so remote an area of Guyana. So we made him aware of lack of fuel supplies, lack of vehicles, difficulty of communication -- that sort of thing.

Q You didn't tell him that it was a peaceful, idyllic community? There was no information given to him that things were peaceful there, or was that the information that he received?

A I can't -- you know, I have tried as best I can to give you the thrust of what the State Department was telling Congressman Ryan during those briefings so far as I understand it from the briefing officers.

Q Tom, that sounds a bit like the signs on the road when there's construction: "Proceed at Your Own Risk." Would that be a fair characterization of what State told the Congressman?

A No. I think what a fair characterization of what State told Congressman Ryan was as I have expressed it to you.

Q Tom, I don't understand. When you say the

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State Department urged caution upon Congressman Ryan, you mean to say that they urged caution in respect to the logistical arrangements in Guyana or that they urged caution in a larger sense -- that this is a group that may be volatile?

A I think the thrust of what we were telling the Congressman really had to do with the logistical difficulties of taking a large entourage of people --

Q Now --

A Now wait; can I finish?

Q Sure.

A -- people on his own staff or on the Congressional staff, media people, relatives of people who might have been resident at Jonestown.

But, nevertheless, there was an aspect to it just to behave with caution and common sense. But I think this would be the normal kind of advice that our Embassies or the State Department would give Americans traveling abroad.

[Cont'd on pg. C-1.1]

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G So if I understand it correctly, then, you are saying that there was no special caution given by the State Department to the Congressman regarding the kind of people he was dealing with.

A I am not in a position to elaborate for you because the person whom I talked with said we urged caution on him, and he did not elaborate. Therefore I am unwilling to wing it and try to elaborate on what I was told.

Q It is an important point, and I wonder whether you can ask again?

A I will attempt to get, if I can, an elaboration of the context of that word.

Q Tom, how did Congressman Ryan and his party proceed from the Port Kaituma airstrip to Jonestown? Did they go on foot or were they received by jeeps and taken there along the road?

A I will take that question.

Q Tom, other unfinished business from this morning, the version of the events that we have had up to now were based upon the eye witness report only of the air crews. You have now talked with some survivors,

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presumably, who were also there. Do you have any change to make or any amplification to make on the basic sequence of events, or any more details about what happened?

A I have no changes that I wish to make in the sequence of events. I don't think I have any changes to make at all. Frankly what I have been concentrating on since the briefing this morning is trying to ascertain for you what has happened in fact since eleven o'clock this morning, and that would have to do mostly with the airlifting of the wounded and injured out of Guyana.

Q Do you have any information about the type of plane being used, for example?

A I said this morning that the plane which did get off the airstrip was a Cessna, and if you would like me to find out if I can what the make and model of the second airplane is which had to remain on the airstrip, I will take that question.

Q There were a number of other details, like what kind of weapons were used.

A I have tried to find out what kind of weapons were used. We have no reports on that.

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Q Tom, since six years ago, the San Francisco Examiner reported on page one that the Reverend Mr. Jones had ushars in his church equipped with three 57 wagnums, and since last summer the New West Magazine reported that Rosalyn Carter's Secret Service people went into a "thet" as they described it, because of these armed guards.

Why is it that the State Department urged logistical caution rather than, say, military caution?

A I think the answer to your question, Les, is that I have undertaken, in response to one of your colleagues, to see if possible I can get you an elaboration on the context of the word "caution."

Q Could I follow that up?

Q Tom, do we have yet the name of the United States embassy officer who accompanied the forces into the airstrip and who presumably may be with them in Georgetown?

A No, but I have undertaken to get you an answer to the question as to whether the embassy officer is indeed with the Security forces who are making their way up the road.

I will also take the question of what the name of such a person is.

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Q But we don't have the name of the man who had gone up there to Mathews with the Security forces.

A I do not have that name in front of me. I will try to get it for you if there is such a person.

Q Did you say that in the morning transcript there is a complete passenger list for those two aircraft? Did you give that this morning?

A Yes.

Q I didn't find that.

A Yes, I did, except I did not give the names of, I think, three or four of the relatives.

Q Tom, after the initial attack last night, did the attackers immediately withdraw? And, secondly, during the night, did any of the wounded receive any kind of first aid from any source, or did they just lie there in the aircraft for hours?

A The answer to both your questions is, I don't know.

Q Tom, can I ask you about this four-page hand-out you gave us this morning?

There was a phrase in it which when you gave us your oral reading of this sequence of events, you omitted, and in the second draft of it, when you said

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that the flatbed trailer pulled by a tractor appeared on the airstrip and that a number of people in the trailer opened fire on Congressman Ryan and his delegation, the phrase you omitted when you gave it to us orally was that this number of people in the trailer were presumed to be Peoples Temple members.

Is there any doubt in your mind as to whether they were indeed Peoples Temple members?

A The statement which I delivered to you this morning orally is the statement of the Department of State.

The thing which I handed out to you was for your ability to follow along. I said that the statement I was going to deliver would be somewhat different from the thing which you received.

The statement which I made orally is our statement.

I am not going to make any statement which might have an impact on the law in Guyana in the absence of a complete investigation by Guyanese security forces.

Q Tom, do you know whether the Guyanese authorities are proceeding to Jonestown tonight, or do you know whether they will rest overnight on the road?

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A I don't.

Q Tom, what attitude is the Department taking towards additional members of the press who might go to Guyana? The San Francisco Examiner has two men on the way, and I understand Time Magazine also has.

A I said this morning that there has been an understandable humanitarian concern with what has happened in Guyana, both in terms of the victims and in terms of us wanting to resolve this situation as efficiently as we can.

We have made an effort to bring increased embassy personnel to Georgetown. We have a C-130 on the way from Panama, stopping in Venezuela and going on into Georgetown, bringing administrative and consular personnel with it.

I understand also that there is one consular officer who is coming in commercially to Georgetown on commercial aircraft from Trinidad.

The embassy has an increased workload and I am sure that there will be others who will be interested in this story, and we will try to deal with it as efficiently as we can.

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Q Tom, has there been direct contact either by the embassy or by the Department with the DCM, the Deputy Chief of Mission.

A Yes, I understand. I assume that there has been, because at one point I was told that he expected to be in Georgetown by dark, and at another time I was told that he was still at the airstrip at Port Kaituma.

Now I assume that that indicates some communication between Georgetown and the Deputy Chief of Mission, but I don't know of any specific telephonic communication.

Q Do you plan to get back to us again this evening?

A No, I had not planned on getting back to you again this evening.

Q Are there any efforts for handling some of the people in Jonestown who might want to leave? Is the United States going to provide transportation for those people who might want to leave now?

A We will await the arrival of Guyanese security forces in the Jonestown area so that we can ascertain what the facts are on the ground. If there are people in need of medical attention, we will be prepared to provide all assistance necessary to treat them

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or to deal with their desires.' But until we have a good fix on the factual situation, I think that the question which you ask is a hypothetical one.

Q Tom, can you tell us if Congressman Ryan proceeded without -- on this trip without any kind of contact with the Jonestown community or its leaders, or was there some kind of a prior contact before he went in there?

A I am not competent to answer your question. I suggest you contact the Congressman's office.

Q Are there any bodies that might be brought out, and how will they be brought back to the United States?

A The bodies will be brought back as soon as possible from Port Kaituma to Georgetown.

Q Tom, can you tell us who is on the C-141 that is on its way back? Is it just the wounded, or other members of the Congressman's party?

A It is, without giving names, nine wounded, one relative of a wounded person, the crew, which is flying the airplane, a back-up crew to fly the airplane, and I believe nine medical, seven personnel, medical

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personnel, doctors and nurses.

Q Seven or nine? I'm sorry.

A Seven.

Q Seven medical.

A Yes.

Q Tom, is the Justice Department involved or the FBI involved in investigating the shooting or killing yet?

A Ask the Justice Department.

Q Do you happen to know yourself?

A I don't.

Q Tom, is it known how many other Congressmen have been murdered while in a foreign country?

A Not by me. Any other questions?

Q Wait a minute, Tom, I haven't finished.

A Go ahead, your next.

Q All right. You said twice that those bodies will be taken back to Georgetown as soon as possible.

A Yes.

Q Do you have any idea how soon after that they will be brought back to the United States?

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A No, sir. It is my understanding, or it would seem logical to me that pursuant to the laws of Guyana, there would have to be an investigation, which would mean that there would have to be an autopsy to establish the cause of death of these people. And I believe that that would probably have to be carried out within the territorial jurisdiction of Guyana.

Q Could I ask a question on another matter?

A Yes.

Q Could you tell us what the origin was of this statement by Secretary Vance this morning on Iran, what prompted it?

A It was in response to press items which we saw in the Soviet press yesterday with regard to the situation in Iran.

Q Tom, in other words, if the autopsy and investigation drag on, apparently the Carter administration is not going to do anything except deplore the murder of the Congressman and the news men.

A The question is entirely hypothetical. The United States Government has dispatched a pathologist to assist the Guyanese authorities. We believe that the

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cooperation thus far of the Guyanese authorities has  
been splendid.

Q Thank you, Tom.

[The briefing concluded at 4:40 p.m.]

DECEMBER 1971

1. **RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**  
 2. **PRODUCTION AND MANUFACTURING**  
 3. **SALES AND MARKETING**  
 4. **FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTING**  
 5. **LEGAL AND COMPLIANCE**  
 6. **OPERATIONS AND LOGISTICS**  
 7. **IT AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS**  
 8. **HR AND PERSONNEL**  
 9. **QUALITY CONTROL**  
 10. **ENVIRONMENTAL AND SAFETY**  
 11. **RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**  
 12. **PRODUCTION AND MANUFACTURING**  
 13. **SALES AND MARKETING**  
 14. **FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTING**  
 15. **LEGAL AND COMPLIANCE**  
 16. **OPERATIONS AND LOGISTICS**  
 17. **IT AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS**  
 18. **HR AND PERSONNEL**  
 19. **QUALITY CONTROL**  
 20. **ENVIRONMENTAL AND SAFETY**

### Species of *Agave* Cultivated

Washington, D.C. 20515

November 20, 1978

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 EDS ☐ EXT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
 EXCLUDE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐  
 D. CLASSIFIED ☐ DECLASSIFIED ☐  
 RELEASE DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 EA OF FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

The tragic events of this weekend, which resulted in the death of Congressman Leo Ryan and perhaps hundreds of other Americans in Guyana, require a full, formal investigation by the United States government and the apprehension of those responsible, if they are still alive.

The investigation should focus not only on the specific events of this incident, but also on the existence and maintenance of other colonies of Americans which may be located abroad and the effect on the rights and welfare of U.S. citizens. There are a number of issues to be addressed, some of which are: the status of their citizenship; the role of the host government; and the role or responsibility of the United States government.

I believe a joint State-Justice Department investigation should be launched immediately to look into all of these issues. As the Chairman of the Subcommittee on International Operations, I would want to be kept fully informed of the progress and results of such an investigation.

I know you share my sense of horror and sadness over Congressman Ryan's and the other Americans' deaths and will act promptly to do whatever is necessary to uncover the facts of this bizarre event.

**Summary:**

DANTE H. PASCELL  
Member of Congress

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.



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UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BUREAU OF INFORMATION  
AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20520

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20540

November 30, 1974

7822675

**S**  
ACTION  
is assigned to  
**ARA**  
**CA**

The Honorable Steve Wynn  
Secretary  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C. 20520

*A major concern in buying arms  
including built of Congress  
Lyon.*

Dear Sir:

Enclosed, for your information, is a  
copy of a letter which I have sent to the President  
today.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,  
*Shultz*

GEORGE B. SHULTZ  
Secretary of State

cc: Wynn  
Enclosure

SECRET

NOV 30 1974

at Wynn's + 2110

**(3)**

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

ACTION SLIP

Unclassified

(Assignment Classification)

SADIXED

7/16/11 RF  
S/S CONTROL NUMBER

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ACTION ASSIGNED TO:

ARA

DATE 11/27

ACTION REQUESTED

☐ STATE TO NSC MEMO  
☐ STATE TO

☐ with Draft reply for signature  
by \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ with Comment or Recommendation

☐ DIRECT REPLY  
☐ REPLY FOR SIGNATURE  
BY \_\_\_\_\_

☐ provide info copy under cover  
of State-NSC transmittal form  
☐ provide comeback copy

☐ RECOMMENDATION FOR \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ with Memorandum for the President

☒ APPROPRIATE HANDLING

☐ FOR YOUR INFORMATION

DUE IN S/S BY: \_\_\_\_\_

CLEAR WITH: \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS/SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Congressional

☐ S  
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☐ S/S-EX  
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☒ TEAM A  
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☒ TEAM C  
☒ TEAM D  
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☐ AID

FROM:

KABIN WARPURA

NAME

S/S-S:

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

November 20, 1978

TO: P - Ambassador David Newton  
FROM: CA - Barbara M. Watson  
SUBJECT: CONKL Ryan -- Discussion with Ambassador Burke

HAS SEEN

NOV 21 1978

I spoke with Ambassador Burke at about 4:15pm.  
We discussed the following subjects:

Casualty Figures

According to the Guyanese Defense Force Commander the bodies of the Reverend Jim Jones, his wife, a son, and 10 bodyguards have been found. The total dead so far, according to the Guyanese Defense Forces is 363. The Chief of Police believes there may be some survivors of the People's Temple group straying in the jungle. (Some others may be at one or two small branch farms; the total strength of Reverend Jones' community probably did not exceed 700.)

U.S. Officials on the Scene

Vic Dixon is in Jonestown and is expected to return to Georgetown this evening. Two of our consular officers are on the site. The communications unit should be in direct contact with Washington this afternoon or evening. The Ambassador believes we have about enough people planned for the operation now.

Disposition of Remains

The remains of Congressman Ryan and three newsmen will arrive in Charleston, South Carolina, at about 1:00am local time tomorrow morning (November 21). Arrangements are being made with DOD for the body of one newsmen to be transferred to Georgia; the remaining bodies will be sent to California. I will attend the funeral service as a friend of the family and as a representative of the Department.

REVIEWED BY DATE

EDS or IDS EXT. DATE

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PERSON(S)

EXISTING MARKINGS

REMARKS

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16. When the Temple lost track of Timothy Stoen, I was assigned to track him down and offer him a large sum of money in return for his silence. Initially, I was to offer him \$5,000. I was authorized to pay him up to \$10,000. I was not able to locate him and did not see him again until on or about October 6, 1977. On that date, the Temple received information that he would be joining Grace in a San Francisco Superior Court action to determine the custody of John. I was one of a group of Temple members assigned to meet him outside the court and attempt to intimidate him to prevent him from going inside.

17. The September, 1977 crisis concerning John Stoen reached major proportions. The radio messages from Guyana were frenzied and hysterical. One morning, Terry J. Buford, public relations advisor to Rev. Jones, and myself were instructed to place a telephone call to a high-ranking Guyanese official who was visiting the United States and deliver the following threat: unless the government of Guyana took immediate steps to stall the Guyanese court action regarding John Stoen's custody, the entire population of Jonestown would extinguish itself in a mass suicide by 5:30 p.m. that day. I was later informed that Temple members in Guyana placed similar calls to other Guyanese officials.

18. We later received radio communication to the effect that the court case had been stalled and that the suicide threat was called off.

19. I arrived in Guyana in December, 1977. I

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for dinner before more serious  
talking was scheduled, Layton said.

The diet consisted mostly of rice,  
purchased in the Guyanese capital of  
Georgetown because the farm is  
not expected to be self-sufficient  
for another three years she said.

She said that on the occasion of  
visits from outside where James  
wanted to inspect, church mem-  
bers are invited to meet and  
vegetables. Other trusted followers  
she claimed were drilled to give  
optimistic opinions about life at the  
mission, called Jonestown.

James, who often went to exten-  
sive lengths to protect his public  
image in San Francisco, has re-  
mained at the mission, refusing  
even to venture into Georgetown,  
she reported.

Among his concerns has been a  
pending child custody case in the  
Guyanese capital.

She said the 150 followers  
were told to drink a bitter brown  
liquid poison, after which they  
supposedly would fall asleep and  
then be shot by James' guards. The  
refugees went on for another day  
the community drink a bitter poison  
before James called it off, Layton  
added.

Layton said she was able to  
leave Jonestown by winning a trip to  
Georgetown. After several days she  
was released with American  
consular officials to check on  
company property and flew to  
New York on May 12. She is now  
living in San Francisco.

"Everyone there wants to  
leave, for sure of it," she said. "But  
you never get a chance to be shot.  
Everyone is not a spy or other  
people."

Layton, who was in charge of  
church finances here before join-  
ing the Guyanese colony last Decem-  
ber, said James' control had ex-  
tended to Guyana, California and  
Guyana, including "at least 200  
million."

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# Escapee tells of suicide plan at Rev. Jones outpost

By GEORGE KILNERMAN

A trusted Peoples Temple aide who escaped last month from "The Promised Land," the church's 37,000-acre farm in Guyana, South America, claims the U.S. citizens residing there are prepared to commit mass suicide on the orders of their leader, the Rev. Jim Jones.

Deborah Layton, 28, a graduate of Santa Rosa Junior College who joined the controversial church when it was headquartered in Redwood Valley, told The Press Democrat that Jones has set up an elaborate plan for exterminating the population at the jungle outpost. It should occur some time next year.

"There was a group assigned to take care of (killing) the children," she

said in a telephone interview from the office of her attorney, Jeff Blane, in San Francisco. "Then there was another group assigned to take care of those who spoke out against Jones. . . . Everybody who was going to kill anybody had someone assigned to them as well."

When Blane went to Guyana to represent Grace Stoen in a custody battle with Jones in September, Layton said, Jones ordered her and other temple aides to threaten Guyanese officials with a grimly ultimatum.

Jones, she said, ordered her to tell the officials "that if everything wasn't worked out (the custody case), everyone would be dead by 3:30 (p.m.). She claims she was her-

self instructed to tell the officials the mass suicide "would create an international incident."

Jones, she said, described this tactic as "The crazy nigger approach."

Grace Stoen and her estranged husband, Tim, former residents of the attorney's Mendocino County, are awaiting a decision from the Guyanese court on the legal battle to gain custody of their son, John, age six.

The Rev. Jones claims he is the father of the child.

"John Stoen is treated very well," said Layton. "The Evans with Maria Katsaris, who lives in the same estate where Jim Jones lives." Jones, she added, "tells Jim Jones

"Dad" and Maria, "Mom." He (John) thinks he came out of her (Maria's) womb."

According to official records, John Stoen was born Jan. 26, 1972 at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital. Tim and Grace Stoen are listed on the birth certificate as the child's parents.

Maria Katsaris' father, Steve, has filed a libel suit against the temple over allegations by Maria that he molested her as a child.

Katsaris, a spokesman for Concerned Relatives, a group that is trying to open communication with relatives at the jungle outpost, is the director of Trinity School.

(Continued on Next Page)

# THE PRESS DEMOCRAT

# Peoples Temple

Uniah.

Layton described Jones as a "paranoid" who demands the complete loyalty of his followers by making them pledge "suicide for the glory of socialism."

On one occasion, she said, Jones tested the loyalty of the group by ordering everyone to drink a "brown liquid" which he told them was a pesticide.

After consuming the bitter potion, Layton said, everyone was to drink large quantities of an alcoholic beverage to induce drowsiness before being shot by Jones' guards.

Jones, she said, called off the stunt after everyone drank the potion.

After she arrived at the sprawling agricultural mission in December, Layton said, she was told to work in the fields for the first month or so, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. "The sun is so hot," she says, "you get blisters on your body."

While she tended the temple's flourishing vegetable crop, Jim Jones' voice blared out over a speaker system that encircles the fields. There were days, she said, when he would speak for six hours at a time.

Jones, she said, would read his own version of the news, which almost invariably included stories of government corruption and CIA plots in the United States. He would ramble on and on with socialist and communist theory, claiming Russia and Cuba are "the spiritual motherland."

On several occasions, Layton said, Jones talked about his deep admiration for Ugandan dictator Idi Amin.

In addition to claiming he is God, Layton said, Jones tells his follow-

ers he "is a reincarnation of Lenin."

After spending a month tending the fields, Layton was transferred to the temple's ham radio shack, where she was trained in the secret codes used for communications with the 200 or so followers still in San Francisco.

Later, Jones placed her in the trusted position of temple bookkeeper, the same position she held at the temple in San Francisco.

Layton claims the books show Jones has "at least \$10 million" cashed away in bank accounts in Europe, Guyana and California.

Much of the income that supports his operation in Guyana, she says, comes in the form of Social Security checks that are mailed to elderly residents there. These checks, which are immediately signed over to the temple, total more than \$25,000 per month, she said.

Layton said she had no intention of ever going to Guyana. When temple officials assured her she would be allowed to come home after two months, however, she reluctantly agreed.

After a week in Georgetown, she was taken to Jonestown, the Guyanese government's name for the remote colony.

"When I got to Jonestown and saw the armed guards," she says, "I knew I didn't want to stay."

Two rings of 50 armed guards, both men and women, form "security alert teams" that surround the compound, she claims. The guards, she said, have access to an arsenal that includes between 200 and 300 rifles, 25 pistols and a home-made bazooka.

Layton describes life in the compound as "so structured you had no

freedom to yourself, no time to be alone."

Residents there survive on a diet consisting primarily of rice and vegetables.

Interpersonal relationships are forbidden, she claims, without prior approval of "the relations committee," a group of loyal followers who must first approve each arrangement on a three-month trial basis.

During those three months, the couple is allowed to talk together, but must not show any physical affection. After that period, Layton says, the committee reviews the relationship and decides whether the couple will be allowed to live together for six months.

Living together at Jonestown, she adds, is no honeymoon experience. Once approved, the couples are moved into cabins that contain 16 bunkbeds each. Each couple is given one bunkbed.

The regimented lifestyle and the brutalities would always be temporarily suspended, she says, when an outside visitor was at the compound.

"When Charles Garry (Jones' attorney) was in Guyana," she said, "he was given the best cabin there. Everything changed. The site was better. There was dancing and partying."

After two months in Jonestown, Layton asked temple officials to return her to San Francisco, but they refused. The officials told her there is a "huge CIA conspiracy" against Jim Jones. "They told me I would be arrested when I arrived in the United States and questioned," she said, "and (that) if I didn't give information (to the CIA), I would be tortured."

The opportunity to escape finally came in May, when she was sent on temple business to Georgetown. She escaped from the group and turned herself in to American consular officials, who granted her an emergency passport and agreed to safeguard her departure from Guyana. She flew to New York on May 13 and is now living in San Francisco.

Temple officials continue to deny the charges against the church and the Rev. Jones.

"We absolutely refute all the charges," said Tim Clancy, a church spokesman in San Francisco. "This just makes us believe more than ever that there is a conspiracy against the church."

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AFFIDAVIT OF DEBORAH LAYTON BLAKEY

RE THE THREAT AND POSSIBILITY OF MASS SUICIDE  
BY MEMBERS OF THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE

I, DEBORAH LAYTON BLAKEY, declare the following  
under penalty of perjury:

1. The purpose of this affidavit is to call to the attention of the United States government the existence of a situation which threatens the lives of United States citizens living in Jonestown, Guyana.

2. From August, 1971 until May 13, 1978, I was a member of the People's Temple. For a substantial period of time prior to my departure for Guyana in December, 1977, I held the position of Financial Secretary of the People's Temple.

3. I was 18 years old when I joined the People's Temple. I had grown up in affluent circumstances in the permissive atmosphere of Berkeley, California. By joining the People's Temple, I hoped to help others and in the process to bring structure and self-discipline to my own life.

4. During the years I was a member of the People's Temple, I watched the organization depart with increasing frequency from its professed dedication to social change and participatory democracy. The Rev. Jim Jones gradually assumed a tyrannical hold over the lives of Temple members.

5. Any disagreement with his dictates came to be regarded as "treason". The Rev. Jones labelled any person

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who left the organization a "traitor" and "fair game". He steadfastly and convincingly maintained that the punishment for defection was death. The fact that severe corporal punishment was frequently administered to Temple members gave the threats a frightening air of reality.

5. The Rev. Jones saw himself as the center of a conspiracy. The identity of the conspirators changed from day to day along with his erratic world vision. He induced the fear in others that, through their contact with him, they had become targets of the conspiracy. He convinced black Temple members that if they did not follow him to Guyana, they would be put into concentration camps and killed. White members were instilled with the belief that their names appeared on a secret list of enemies of the state that was kept by the C.I.A. and that they would be tracked down, tortured, imprisoned, and subsequently killed if they did not flee to Guyana.

7. Frequently, at Temple meetings, Rev. Jones would talk non-stop for hours. At various times, he claimed that he was the reincarnation of either Lenin, Jesus Christ, or one of a variety of other religious or political figures. He claimed that he had divine powers and could heal the sick. He stated that he had extrasensory perception and could tell what everyone was thinking. He said that he had powerful connections the world over, including the Mafia, Idi Amin, and the Soviet government.

8. When I first joined the Temple, Rev. Jones

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seemed to make clear distinctions between fantasy and reality. I believed that most of the time when he said irrational things, he was aware that they were irrational, but that they served as a tool of his leadership. His theory was that the end justified the means. At other times, he appeared to be deluded by a paranoid vision of the world. He would not sleep for days at a time and talk compulsively about the conspiracies against him. However, as time went on, he appeared to become genuinely irrational.

9. Rev. Jones insisted that Temple members work long hours and completely give up all semblance of a personal life. Proof of loyalty to Jones was confirmed by actions showing that a member had given up everything, even basic necessities. The most loyal were in the worst physical condition. Dark circles under one's eyes or extreme loss of weight were considered signs of loyalty.

10. The primary emotions I came to experience were exhaustion and fear. I knew that Rev. Jones was in some sense "sick", but that did not make me any less afraid of him.

11. Rev. Jones fled the United States in June, 1977 amidst growing public criticism of the practices of the Temple. He informed members of the Temple that he would be imprisoned for life if he did not leave immediately.

12. Between June, 1977 and December, 1977, when I was ordered to depart for Guyana, I had access to coded radio broadcasts from Rev. Jones in Guyana to the People's

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Temple headquarters in San Francisco.

13. In September, 1977, an event which Rev. Jones viewed as a major crisis occurred. Through listening to coded radio broadcasts and conversations with other members of the Temple staff, I learned that an attorney for former Temple member Grace Stoen had arrived in Guyana, seeking the return of her son, John Victor Stoen.

14. Rev. Jones has expressed particular bitterness toward Grace Stoen. She had been Chief Counselor, a position of great responsibility within the Temple. Her personal qualities of generosity and compassion made her very popular with the membership. Her departure posed a threat to Rev. Jones' absolute control. Rev. Jones delivered a number of public tirades against her. He said that her kindness was faked and that she was a C.I.A. agent. He swore that he would never return her son to her.

15. I am informed that Rev. Jones believed that he would be able to stop Timothy Stoen, husband of Grace Stoen and father of John Victor Stoen, from speaking against the Temple as long as the child was being held in Guyana. Timothy Stoen, a former Assistant District Attorney in Mendocino and San Francisco counties, had been one of Rev. Jones' most trusted advisors. It was rumored that Stoen was critical of the use of physical force and other forms of intimidation against Temple members. I am further informed that Rev. Jones believed that a public statement by Timothy Stoen would increase the tarnish on his public image.

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## Ex-Peoples Temple Member

# Grim Report From Jungle

By Marshall Kilduff

The Peoples Temple jungle outpost in South America was portrayed yesterday as a remote realm where the church leader, the Rev. Jim Jones, "saves" public beatings, maintains a squad of 50 armed guards and has involved his 1100 followers in a threat of mass suicide.

This description was provided by Deborah Layton, 25, who was a top aide of Jones until she asked American consular officials in Georgetown to safeguard her departure from Guyana, where the temple has its agricultural mission.

Peoples Temple officers in San Francisco last night relayed — via shortwave radio from Guyana — a refutation of the charges from two of the South American mission's residents, identified as Lisa and Larry Layton, the mother and brother of Deborah Layton.

"These lies are too ridiculous to refute," Lisa Layton said. "... We are treated beautifully here ..."

Larry Layton said, "We are treated beautifully."

San Francisco temple officer Tim Clancy added, "We absolutely refuse all the charges. This just makes us believe more than ever that there is a conspiracy against the church."

Jones became the center of a storm of controversy last summer when he slipped out of San Francisco with his followers for Guyana. public charges were made by former followers that Jones had performed false medical cures to win converts, that he oversaw beatings of church members in closed meetings and that he amassed more than \$5 million in donations.

According to Layton, Jones has become a "paranoid" obsessed with "traitors" in his own ranks who question him or do not work hard enough in the farm fields and with an outside world that has publicized his critics.

The fever-pitch emotions of temple members that allowed Jones to dispatch them to civil rights causes and liberal political rallies in



DEBORAH LAYTON, A FORMER AIDE TO JIM JONES  
She told of armed guards and savage discipline

California has now turned to a military-style vigilance against an imminent attack by unspecified "mercenaries," Layton said.

The temple fields are patrolled by two rings of khaki-uniformed armed guards, men and women members of "security alert teams" who have access to 200 to 300 rifles, 25 pistols and a homemade bazooka, Layton said.

Discipline, she said, is handled at public gatherings of the entire church community. On one occa-

sion an elderly woman was humiliated by being forced to strip. Younger members are "knuckled" by having flats ground into their foreheads, and others are ordered to an underground "box" where they must sit for days at a time, Layton said.

Jones has ringed the work fields with loudspeakers and talks for stretches of up to six hours, she added. Farmhands are expected to work from 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. with an hour for lunch and another hour

EXHIBIT D

# HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES BY JIM JONES (CONTINUED)

<u>Name of Relative at Jonestown</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Petitioners to Forbes Burnham and Cyrus Vance</u>	<u>Relationship to Petitioner</u>
45. Chaikin, Phyllis	40	Raphael Chaikin	Sister-in-law
46. Chaikin, Gail	16	Raphael Chaikin	Niece
47. Chaikin, David	13	Raphael Chaikin	Nephew
48. Farrell, Barbara L.	44	Lena May Pietila (Petaluma) Elwood Leo Holt (Fairfield)	Mother Sister
49. Flowers, Rebecca Ann	24	Lena May Pietila Elwood Leo Holt	Sister Niece
50. Tupper, Larry, Jr.	10	Laurence Tupper (Chico)	Son
51. Tupper, Ruth	21	Laurence Tupper	Daughter
52. Tupper, Mary	17	Laurence Tupper	Daughter
53. Tupper, Tim (Jones)	20	Laurence Tupper	Son
54. Tupper, Janet	14	Laurence Tupper	Daughter
55. Bates, Christine	73	Henry W. Haynes (Los Angeles) Mrs. Henry Haynes (Los Angeles)	Sister Sister-in-law
56. Parks, Jerry	44	Dennis H. Parks (Ukiah)	Brother
57. Parks, Patricia	42	Dennis H. Parks	Sister-in-law
58. Parks, Dale	27	Dennis H. Parks	Nephew
59. Parks, Brenda	17	Dennis H. Parks	Niece
60. Parks, Tracy	11	Dennis H. Parks	Niece
61. Lacy, Georgia	68	Phillip Lacy (San Luis Obispo) Frank Lacy (San Francisco)	Mother Wife
62. Briggs, Donna	15	Phillip Lacy	Half-sister
63. Liton, Tony	13	Phillip Lacy	Half-brother
64. Edwards, James	58	Queen Settles (Richmond) Ophelia Robinson (Oakland) Wilhelmina Johnson (Berkeley) Elnora James (Berkeley) Calvin Johnson (San Francisco) Mary Evans (Berkeley)	Uncle Brother Uncle Uncle Uncle Brother
65. Edwards, Irene	56	Modenia Belton (Concord) Mildred Womack (Daly City) Edna Smith (San Francisco)	Sister Sister Sister
66. Ponts, Lois	51	Cynthia Beam	Mother

09:15:58:10:34

# HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES BY JIM JONES (CONTINUED)

<u>Name of Relative at Jonestown</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Petitioners to Forbes Burnham and Cyrus Vance</u>	<u>Relationship to Petitioner</u>
67. Parks, Joyce	32	Jack Arnold Beam (Ventura)	Sister
68. Beam, Eleanor	17	Jack Arnold Beam	Sister
69. Beam, Rherviana	33	Jack Arnold Beam	Mother
70. Beam, Jack	53	Jack Arnold Beam	Father
71. Breidenbach, Rocky	45	Sam Breidenbach (Fremont)	Mother
72. Breidenbach, Wesley	19	Sam Breidenbach	Brother
73. Breidenbach, Melanie	18	Sam Breidenbach	Sister
74. Sneed, Eloise	70	Mabel Madlock (Los Angeles) Wade Madlock (Los Angeles)	Sister Sister-in-law
75. Williams, Syola	66	Wade & Mabel Madlock	(Same)
76. Johnson, Clara	46	Mabel Madlock	Niece
77. Johnson, Tommy	22	Mabel Madlock	Nephew
78. Johnson, JoAnn	19	Mabel Madlock	Niece
79. Johnson, Joyce	16	Mabel Madlock	Niece
80. Johnson, Janice	17	Mabel Madlock	Niece
81. King, Charlotte	80	Matty M. Durham (Los Angeles)	Mother
82. Duncan, Regina	14	Katie Williams (San Francisco)	Niece

TOTALS: 82 Relatives in Jonestown (As of May 10, 1978)  
57 Petitioners

## CHILDREN BEING HELD IN JONESTOWN BY JONES IN VIOLATION OF COURT ORDERS:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Date of California Superior Court order</u>
1. Wagner, Mark	16	September 29, 1977
2. Ponts, Donna	15	January 6, 1977
3. Stoen, John Victor	6	November 18, 1977

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We have continued to discuss with the Ambassador and with the Graves Registration officials in DOD how best to handle the dead at Jonestown. It is extremely hot and wet there and the bodies may by now have been lying in the open for as much as 48 hours. Fingerprints and photographs may still be of some use as late as tomorrow morning but these means of identification will not be very useful after that. A serious health hazard could face workers in Jonestown at any time.

The Guyanese seem to prefer local burial but would also agree to our bringing the bodies home if we chose. If local interment is the final answer (and I guess we are inclining in that direction) it would seem less impersonal if (a) the bodies could be buried in some sort of "American Memorial Cemetery" at the site; (b) if they could be identified and placed in marked individual graves; and (c) we could notify next of kin if, how and when the bodies could eventually be exhumed for reburial in the United States. So far there have been fewer than 200 inquiries from next of kin about the disposition of remains.

Mark Lane

In statements to Embassy officers and to the press, Mark Lane has sought to exculpate himself of any misjudgments or wrong-doing. The Guyanese Government is holding him and Mr. Garry as material witnesses. Other survivors of the mass killing, however, would probably be released after making a deposition to the police.

cc: D - Mr. Christopher  
S/S - Mr. Tarnoff  
ARA - Mr. Vaky  
H - Mr. Bennet  
Working Group (3)  
PA/Press

CA:HHG:st 11/20/78

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CID/MR..

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

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DATE [ ]

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TO: The Secretary

FROM: ARA - Viron P. Vaky

Our Assistance to Codel Ryan

Beginning September 15, the Department and Embassy Georgetown have actively assisted the Codel in its preparations for the trip to Guyana. From October 15 ARA/CAR had almost daily contact with staff members particularly Congressman Ryan's legal counsel, Ms. Speiers, in planning and coordinating the visit. The Codel was apprised of formidable logistic problems that would confront the group because of the remote location of the community. Numerous discussions were held concerning the structure of the organization and past alleged illegal activities of the Temple. The possibility that the Temple would be suspicious of the purposes of the visit and might refuse the Codel entry into their agricultural community was also reviewed.

Moreover the Codel was informed that should they be refused admittance, the GOG would be reluctant to pressure the Temple to admit the party on the grounds that they have a right to their privacy if they are not in violation of local law. Department legal officers also briefed Codel staff members on the parameters of Embassy authority over private Americans in a foreign country.

The subject of violence was mentioned although not in the context of the possibility of an assault

Drafted: ARA/CAR:RAMCoy:rlf  
x23449:11/20/78

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~~RESTRICTED OFFICIAL USE~~

on the Code! but rather the alleged threats made by the Temple against defecting members.

Congressman Ryan had made considerable research into the Peoples Temple and appeared to be familiar with the charges of maltreatment. He indicated through his legal counsel to accept many of the recommendations made by the Department and the Embassy, including notifying the Peoples Temple of the purpose of the visit.

## YOUR TALKING POINTS

-- Congressman Ryan first discussed the visit on September 15 with Assistant Secretary Vaky and members of his staff.

From this initial meeting, the Department was in close and frequent contact with the Congressman's staff in planning the visit.

-- In planning the visit, Department and Codel discussed reports of rumored maltreatment of Temple members and results of previous Embassy visits and inquiries at the agricultural community.

-- Department and Embassy Georgetown advised Codel of the formidable logistics problems due to the remote location of the townsites.

-- Department Officers informed Codel staff of possibility that Peoples Temple may view visit with suspicion and refuse Codel entry into agricultural community. The GOG would be reluctant to pressure the Temple in receiving group on grounds they have a right to their privacy if not in violation of local law.

-- Embassy Georgetown fully coordinated visit with GOG who provided logistical support for visit.

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- 2 -

YOUR TALKING POINTS

- Our Embassy has maintained close contact with the Temple and GOG officials since the arrival of large numbers of American citizens to the agricultural community.
- Consular Officers made periodic visits to the agricultural community to perform normal consular functions and to investigate allegations of mistreatment.
- Of the numerous Temple members interviewed (approximately 73 over the past year) not one confirmed any of the allegations of mistreatment. (The Consular Officer held personal, private meetings with the individuals who identified themselves with their passports).
- The GOG supported the Peoples Temple program since it dovetailed with their primary domestic objective of opening the interior of Guyana to agricultural development.
- Our Embassy Officers in Georgetown did discuss Peoples Temple activities with working level contacts of the GOG although they were naturally careful not to cast aspersions on a group of presumably law abiding American citizens.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

S/S

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

TO: The Secretary  
FROM: ARA - Viron P. Vaky

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Drafted: ARA/CAR:RAMCoy:rlf  
x23449:11/20/78

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Declassified following 12/31/80

1. The first group of people who are not in the military are the people who are not in the military.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

SS

November 20, 1978

TO: P - Ambassador David Newsom  
FROM: CA - Barbara M. Watson  
SUBJECT: CODEL Ryan -- Killings in Guyana and  
Consular Preparations

SITUATION IN JONESTOWN

Preliminary Briefings

The Department learned early this September that Congressman Ryan intended to visit Guyana and the People's Temple. The Congressman had received appeals and complaints from constituents about the condition of children and relatives in Jonestown; he wished to follow up this activity personally. Department officials held their first meeting with the Congressman on September 17 and the last one on November 13, the day before he left. Between those dates, ARA. L. and CA frequently discussed the trip with the Congressman and his staff. On these occasions the Congressman was told it could be dangerous to fly into a primitive airstrip in the midst of very rugged country. He was also aware that the People's Temple community was opposed to his visit. Defectors from the Temple group had reported the presence of guns in the community, plus such practices as physical abuse and even dry run suicide drills. Since June of 1977 approximately 7 consular visits were made to Jonestown to look into allegations that Jonestown residents were being abused. No clear indications of abuse were obtained. Relatives of Jonestown residents continue to say "would be" defectors are either being brainwashed or intimidated. While the Department was aware that Jonestown was tense, we saw less reason to interpose reservations between the Congressman and his American constituents because our own consular officers had done -- without any harm or threat to themselves -- what the Congressman was planning to do.

The Shootings

The ambush which killed Congressman Ryan and four others and wounded nine more has been reported. Confirmed also is that Guyana Security Forces acted carefully

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approaching Jonestown have so far found about 400 dead. No survivors in Jonestown have yet been reported.

#### Current Activity - Additional Personnel

We do not want to over-burden Georgetown's small staff but we are responding to their needs as determined through constant telephone and cable traffic. The Embassy staff has been increased by 3 consular officers and 4 communications officers. Two (2) consular officers and a communications unit will be in Jonestown this morning. A senior consular officer (who handled the Tenerife aircraft crashes) will also be going down tonight. A Graves' Registration team from DOD of about 20 men is also leaving for Guyana tonight.

The total Jonestown community may in fact not much exceed the 400 dead. Accounts that the community numbers more than 1,000, may be exaggerations.

#### Burial of Congressman Ryan's Party

Congressman Ryan's family wishes his body transported directly to San Francisco for a Wednesday funeral at the Golden Gate National Cemetery. Three other dead also we think may be buried in California. The fifth victim resided in Ohio.

#### Burial of Jonestown Victims

Guyanese police say some of the Jonestown dead died by poison and others gunshot wounds. For legal prognostics, sample autopsies are being made from both groups. Guyana law requires burial within 36 hours. It has so far not been possible to identify the next of kin but in many cases we believe they would not want to be responsible for the costs of transport or even burial. Also, the return of these dead at U.S. Government expense would be a precedent. Under existing regulations if financial arrangements cannot be made to return a dead American, consular officers arrange for local burial. The matter, however, is being intensively studied. A mass burial of such a pathetic group could look a little heartless. The climate, communications, and Guyanese law might in the end make local burial obligatory.

Nine wounded returned to the U.S. via a C-141 last night. They were met by Miss Watson. Aircraft are available to bring back a great many dead and any wounded (who may yet be discovered). A C-141 is on the ground in Georgetown and may return this afternoon or evening -- perhaps carrying the bodies. Another C-141 arrives today. At least two other aircraft (C-130's) will be in Georgetown by tonight or tomorrow morning. They are carrying helicopter assembly equipment and supplies. A C-5A may fly in tomorrow with additional helicopters. Helicopters will break the bottleneck of access to Jonestown which now is only via a Guyanese 18 passenger Otter and another 5-seat aircraft.

The well-known criminal lawyer, Mark Lane, who represented the Rev. Jim Jones is in Georgetown. Some how he made his way to the capital from Jones settlement. A report from the Embassy is expected momentarily.

Miss Watson will be interviewed by Susan King for WDVH-TV (Channel 9) at 2:00 p.m. today.

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100-443887-100



CLASSIFICATION:

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

7822602

REFERRAL

Date: 11/22/78  
RSC log# 7058

MEMORANDUM FOR:

STATE SECRETARIAT

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Congressional Correspondence

To: The President

From: Dante B. Fascell

Date: November 20, 1978

Subject: Guyana re Death of Leo Ryan

ACTION REQUESTED:

XXXXXX Direct Reply

Copy of Interim Reply  
and Incoming Attached

XXXXXX AN INTERIM AIX HAS BEEN  
SENT BY WHITE HOUSE

XXXXXX Furnish info copy

COMMENTS: Please furnish a reply within seven days.  
Thank you.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

HDS for ZDS [unclear]

TS AUTH.

ENDORSE [unclear]

BY [unclear]

DATE [unclear]

FOR [unclear]

*Harold J. West*  
for CHRISTINE DOBSON  
STAFF SECRETARY

Received in S/S-I  
11/29 at 12:15

DAVID B. FASCELL  
1000 RIVERSIDE DRIVE

EXTERIOR FLOOR, ROOM 1100  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS  
COMMISSION  
1000 RIVERSIDE DRIVE  
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# Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

November 30, 1978

75-2502

5-1-8

ACK. PM/NSC  
CONFERENCE

NOV 30 1978

Dear Mr. President:

The tragic events of this weekend, which resulted in the death of Congressman Leo Ryan and perhaps hundreds of other Americans in Guyana, require a full, formal investigation by the United States government and the apprehension of those responsible, if they are still alive.

Any such investigation would, of course, require the full cooperation of the Guyanese government and I assume that the necessary steps for seeking such cooperation have already been indicated. I trust that our government has also offered its full assistance to the Guyanese.

The investigation should focus not only on the specific events of this incident, but also on the existence and maintenance of other colonies of Americans which may be located abroad and the effect on the rights and welfare of U.S. citizens. There are a number of issues to be addressed, some of which are: the status of their citizenship; the role of the host government; and the role of responsibility of the United States government.

I believe a joint State-Justice Department investigation should be launched immediately to look into all of these issues. As the chairman of the Subcommittee on International Operations, I would want to be kept fully informed of the progress and results of such an investigation.

I know you share my sense of horror and sadness over Congressman Ryan's and the other Americans' deaths and will act promptly to do whatever is necessary to uncover the facts of this bizarre event.

Sincerely,

*David B. FASCELL*

DAVID B. FASCELL  
Member of Congress

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

500

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

RF-35

Revision #1

ACTION SLIP  
Unclassified  
(Automatic Classification)

S/S CONTROL NUMBER

7822602

ACTION ASSIGNED TO: ARA

DATE 11/28

(Action Office Instructions on Reverse)

ACTION REQUESTED

☐ STATE TO NSC MEMO  
☐ STATE TO

☐ with Draft reply for signature  
by \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ with Comment or Recommendation

☐ DIRECT REPLY

☐ provide info copy under cover  
of State-NSC transmittal form  
☐ provide comeback copy  
for \_\_\_\_\_

☒ REPLY FOR SIGNATURE  
BY H - Atwood

☐ RECOMMENDATION FOR \_\_\_\_\_  
with Memorandum for the President

☐ APPROPRIATE HANDLING

☐ FOR YOUR INFORMATION

DUE IN S/S BY: 12/1

CLEAR WITH: CA

REMARKS/SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Revision #1 - reply for signature by H

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FROM: KARIN WARPULA (NAME)  
S/S: A B ☒ C D  
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ARA (612)  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR  
November 21, 1978

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REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

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**MEMORANDUM**

TO: ARA/CAR - Richard Moore  
FROM: ARA/PFC - Tim Dunn  
SUBJECT: Responses to Congressman Zablocki's  
November 21 Letter to Secretary Vance  
on the Peoples Temple

The following responses based on information available to me, are keyed to the questions in the Congressman's letter to the Secretary.

1. The Department and the Embassy were not aware of any threat posed to Congressman Ryan's Delegation by Jonestown residents. There was obvious concern about alleged activities at the settlement which had prompted the Delegation's trip. Embassy officials, however, had visited the community on several occasions without difficulties and without any fear of hostile treatment by the residents. The most serious potential problem which the Department and the CodeL envisaged was the logistical one of visiting a remote area. The CodeL indicated in meetings with Department officials that they understood the problems that could arise.

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but based on past experience with the Peoples Temple, no one anticipated the tragedy which subsequently occurred.

2. Beginning September 15, 1978 when Congressman Ryan met with Assistant Secretary Vaky and members of his staff, the Department and our Embassy in Guyana assisted the Congressman. The Guyana Desk Officer, and members of the Offices of Special Consular Services and the Assistant Legal Advisor for Consular Affairs, also were involved in frequent consultations with the Codel. The Briefings were held to acquaint the Codel with the information available to the Department concerning the background of the Peoples Temple, its probable reaction to the visit, and the logistical problems of a trip to that isolated area of Guyana.

The Department and the Embassy <sup>had no evidence</sup> ~~were not aware~~ <sup>other than on a few dates</sup> that weapons ~~were~~ present in Jonestown. We did advise the Codel to seek the prior approval of the Peoples Temple to visit with the settlement with members of the press and private citizens, in order to assure access to what was private property.

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- 3 -

Permission to visit Jonestown was arranged through the Peoples Temple attorneys and indicated at least an acquiescent attitude on the part of the residents. Also, as noted, Embassy officials had visited the settlement several times without problems. A Department Officer further suggested that the Congressman take a psychiatrist with him in order to study the situation and attitudes of Jonestown. This suggestion was not followed. On November 9, the Congressman's Legal Aide and a member of the EIRC staff met with representatives of the Office of Caribbean Affairs, the Inter-American and Consular Affairs Bureaus and the Legal Advisor's Office to discuss legal aspects of the Congressional visit. The principle points of discussion were the Privacy Act implications concerning the Congressional Committee's right to information and access to individuals and their files; any other prerogatives that the committee might be entitled to by treaty or international comity; and privileges available under the Vienna Consular Convention in force. The logistical problems to

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- 4 -

be faced in making the trip to Jonestown were thoroughly discussed. There was also general discussion concerning the personality and psychological aspects of mind control techniques concerning religious groups of this type.

On November 13, the Congressman, his Legal Aide, and two HIRC staff members, accompanied by two former Peoples Temple members, and a relative of a Jonestown resident, met with Department officials to discuss further that situation in Jonestown and the nature of the Peoples Temple and its leader. At the end of the meeting, Congressman Ryan said that he owed it to his constituents and to the other San Francisco Bay area Congressmen to visit Jonestown and investigate for himself.

3. The Embassy made the usual requests that the Guyanese Government facilitate the visit of a Congressional Delegation. Special protection for the Delegation was not provided because there was no perceived threat and the Delegation itself did not ask for protection. The GCG did give routine assistance

*1/21/81 Embassy  
277  
anyone in  
of what  
transfers?*

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- 5 -

227 to the group (e.g. customs and immigration clearance) and undoubtedly would have provided security had it been requested. See Brief (Pg. 20). 277

4. In Georgetown, the Delegation had the use of Embassy and commercial communication facilities.

In Port Kaituma .... was dependent on the settlement facilities. (elaborate with specifics on equipment; any special arrangements?).

See  
attached  
response.

5. Embassy officials first visited Jonestown in 1974 (who, why, what did they find?). In late August 1977 the Embassy received its first inquiry about the possibility that a specific Peoples Temple member was being held against her will in Jonestown. In response, a Consular Officer visited Jonestown on August 29 and spoke privately with the individual. She denied that there was any problem and said that she wished to remain at the settlement. At this time, the Officer also interviewed a member of the group, who had left the community unhindered, in the nearby town of Matthews Ridge. This person asked the Officer to arrange for his return to the United States. This was done at the Peoples Temple expense.

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3. (Embassy has to respond) ~~was~~

4. The Codel had use of the Embassy communications facilities ~~when~~ when they were in Georgetown. However, the Codel was ~~advised~~ that communications were nonexistent in the Port Kaituma area except for the People's Temple facilities at Jonestown. The Embassy ~~does~~ did not have mobile communications equipment that could have been used to support the trip. The ~~Government of Guyana~~ ~~does not have any~~

5

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- 6 -

Afterwards, Embassy officials visited Jonestown <sup>four</sup> ~~some~~ times in response to letters received from concerned relatives in the United States. During these visits, ~~about~~ 75 to 100 residents were interviewed, ~~(individually)~~.

Of these, 40 to 50 were interviewed in an open field <sup>adjacent</sup> ~~to the open air community center~~ to prevent the conversation from being overheard and to encourage frankness. None of these persons made any complaint. The Consular Officer involved, aware of the allegations of intimidation, did not notice any signs of nervous or mental strain on these people. During each interview, the Officer offered to escort the individual from the camp. The offer was refused in every case. On each visit the Officer felt free to move about the settlement and was able to speak privately with residents.

6. See Brief (Pg. 3-5).

7. Neither the Department nor the Embassy ~~was aware~~ <sup>had been told</sup>

of any quantity of firearms and ammunition in Jonestown. <sup>had been told by Jones during his first visit the community had a few</sup> ~~The GOC has strict arms control laws, but it also~~ <sup>weapons.</sup> does not seem to have been aware of the presence of such weapons. As noted above, the Department met with members of the Delegation several times and <sup>In Nov, 1978 P.T. Robinson testified in front of our Consul there were few weapons at Jonestown. This information was furnished with an</sup>

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*The Temple was allegedly ~~hired~~ <sup>induced</sup> to attack by  
"mercenaries" hired by the ~~Government~~ <sup>Rev. Mr. Jones</sup>, The Council  
referred them to the GOG, P.T. ~~discussed~~ this with the ~~Common~~  
Colonial ~~Office~~.*

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provided them with all available information on the situation at Jonestown.

8. Investigations (what kind?) of the Peoples Temple were made by other U.S. Government agencies (which ones?), but the Department is not aware of any reports containing conclusive evidence of illegal activities of the Peoples Temple, or of any criminal charges or indictments brought against the organization.

9. The Embassy provided normal consular services to the Jonestown residents. Besides the visits to the settlement, Consular Officials met with Peoples Temple members on ~~several~~ <sup>many</sup> occasions at the Embassy in Georgetown. Under international law, the safety of U.S. residents and their property in Guyana is also a responsibility of the local Government, which is better able to provide such care. The GOG has always indicated its willingness to accept this responsibility and to cooperate with the Embassy when the need arises.

10. The Embassy had received reports, of which the Department was aware, from concerned relatives and former Peoples Temple members alleging that Peoples Temple members sometimes were subjected to acts of

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- 8 -

violence at the settlement. The Embassy, however, was not able to confirm these reports even after conducting interviews at Jonestown itself. The Embassy and the Department kept each other informed of all substantive findings and reports relating to the Peoples Temple. Beginning in late 1977, Department officials met a number of times with relatives and former Peoples Temple members to discuss allegations of physical and psychological mistreatment of Jonestown residents. Although no concrete evidence of these allegations was submitted, the Embassy was kept informed of these discussions so that a Consular Officer could attempt to investigate the charges during trips to Jonestown.

11. After receiving reports of violence, Embassy Officers consulted with Guyanese police authorities in Georgetown and in the District responsible for the settlement area to determine the veracity of the charges. The Embassy was advised by the Department that it would be inappropriate to formally request the GOC to investigate U.S. citizens since there was no specific, substantiated information available concerning alleged illegal activities at Jonestown. The Guyanese police

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- 2 -

had been monitoring the Peoples Temple since June 1977 and had required police inspection of shipments bound for the settlement through Mabaroma (~~what about through Great Lakes?~~). This and other police interested in the group failed to uncover any evidence of illegal or improper activity.

12. A Consular Officer interviewed two Peoples Temple members who wished to leave-one at Matthews Ridge (see response #5), and another at the Embassy in Georgetown in May 1978. Only the latter, Mrs. Deborah Layton Blakely (the sister of Larry Layton who has been charged with murder in Guyana for his role in the airstrip incident) expressed concern that the Peoples Temple would not allow her to leave. She did not, however, present any evidence for her fears. The Embassy assisted both of these persons to leave Guyana. Congressman Ryan was aware of these interviews and had met personally with Mrs. Blakely.

13. The Department did not consider restricting the passports of persons wishing to travel to Jonestown. The Limitations of 22 U.S.C. 211 (a) would not properly have been applied to such persons who were seeking to visit an area which was not officially restricted.

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- 10 -

The lack of evidence of any illegal or dangerous activity in the area would have made the legality of such a restriction questionable as an arbitrary ~~re-~~  
~~straint of a citizen's right to travel.~~

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ARA # 1

Att - Bushnell asked <sup>for</sup> me to give this info to Brandon Groves. I've got it into Groves.

1. Ackerman said he did not think we should ask other investigating agencies for info re Peoples Temple just because a Congressman or, more likely, a staffer asked for it. Rather we should limit our response to what State has done & has in its files and refer Congressmen directly to other investigating agencies.

2. If, even so, we wanted to go to other investigating agencies (a listing of possible agencies was attached to capital hill, Ackerman said), (a) CIA should do it and (b) a senior 7th floor State Dept. official should write the agencies first, requesting their cooperation and explaining need for the info. Without such a letter, investigating agencies would be reluctant to help, given political sensitivity of the issue. S & would be glad to help, if a decision to go ahead is made.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE 6/30/81

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TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY JOHN SIMMS DATE 2-27-81

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DOO (LDX)\*  
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JUSTICE

\*DOO PA  
DUTY OFFICER  
NMOC (LDX)

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Department of State  
Operations Center

(GUYANA TASK FORCE)

Situation Report No. 20

Situation in Guyana as of 0800 hours (EST), Nov. 25, 1978

As of 0800 (EST), the current count, according to the Joint Task Force Commander, is 794 bodies, although more may still be found in Jonestown. Ambassador Burke and the Commander will evaluate the need for US military personnel to remain at the Jonestown area and will inform the Department of their decision.

One C-141 with 110 bodies will arrive at Dover at 1130 (EST) today, bringing the total bodies returned to 532. A second flight is due to depart Georgetown at 1000 (EST). While there is a bottleneck as regards transfer cases, additional cases are en route and it may be possible to remove all bodies from Guyana by tonight. All should be out by tomorrow.

There is still no word on when the Guyanese Government will permit the departure of the surviving members of the People's Temple. Georgetown Radio announced that Charles Baikman had been formally charged with the murder (in Georgetown) of Sharon Amos and her children. Together with Larry Layton, this makes two People's Temple members against whom charges have been brought. Three others are detained and under investigation for illegal possession of firearms.

A small cemetery containing five graves was located at Jonestown. Five deaths had been reported to Embassy Consular Officers earlier. Tags initially put on bodies by local officials were prepared with water soluble ink, which has since become unreadable with the rain. Many bodies previously identified will have to be identified again. A final count revealed 847 beds in the Jonestown complex.

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-2-

The Department has authorized the Embassy to retain an attorney. Initial contact with an attorney was made yesterday, but arrangements have not yet been worked out.

Embassy Georgetown reports that two basic problems have complicated relations with the media -- the lack of US Government transportation for the press to Jonestown and deficiencies in communications facilities. The Guyanese Ministry of Information has arranged some flights to Jonestown in GOG aircraft; thereby leading to charges of "favoritism" from those left behind.

Most of the parts requested by the Guyanese for their helicopters have been located; however, no way has been found yet to pay for these items. DOD lawyers have questioned the legal authority for providing equipment to the Guyanese police. We will be looking into the matter today.

  
John A. Bushnell  
Guyana Working Group

  
Thayernders  
Senior Watch Officer

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

15

DTG 13 FM 5 21

NOV 28 1978

S/S (615)

Rf

TO : The Secretary  
FROM : ARA - Viron P. Vaky  
SUBJECT : Congressional Requests Concerning  
Death of Congressman Ryan in Guyana

Congressman Zablocki has submitted a list of questions to the Department on behalf of the Committee on International Relations concerning the late Congressman Ryan's mission to Guyana. We will be forwarding a reply soon that will address in detail 13 questions put to us by Mr. Zablocki and will also forward a full set of documents as requested.

In addition, Congressman Fascell has written to the President proposing a joint State/Justice investigation, and asking to be kept informed of the progress and results of such an investigation. We are replying to Mr. Fascell that the Justice Department is conducting an investigation at the present time, and we are responding fully to the Committee Chairman. We will make it a point to see that Mr. Fascell is kept informed of the progress.

Drafted: ARA:BGrove, Jr.  
11/28/78, ext 28386

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CA Press Guidance  
November 28, 1978

PASSPORTS FOR THE JONESTOWN,  
GUYANA SURVIVORS

Q: (taken at noon briefing) Are the survivors from Jonestown traveling on their old or on new passports?

A: The survivors will all travel on their old passports with one exception. One individual did not have an old passport and will be issued a new one.

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11/28/78 x26326

CLEARANCE: GNG - RD-11 (subs)

CA Press Guidance  
November 29, 1978

617

DEPARTMENT QUERIES RE OTHER  
RELIGIOUS GROUPS SIMILAR TO THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE

Q: Has the Department of State queried its posts about the presence of religious groups similar to the People's Temple in their areas?

A: The Department has not made such a request.

Investigation of the religious activities of Americans abroad is not a proper function of the Department of State. Indeed, the Department of State is precluded by law (the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a) from maintaining records on how individuals choose to exercise their constitutional guarantees of freedom of religion and freedom of association.

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11/29/78 x26326

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Original as in File in

Personnel File

VIA AIR ROUTE

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2-21

TO : Department of State (OPL/MS)

E.O. 11652: N/A  
SIGS: JMR, CMN, CMNINFO :  
CPT PAZ: Distribution List Below

FROM : Embassy Georgetown

DATE: July 13, 1973

SUBJECT : ~~EMERGENCY AND EVACUATION~~: Estimated Number of  
Potential Evacuees and Private Americans Residing  
Abroad (Report 7-77)  
REF: A) 76 STAFF 2-3898; B) STAFF 150307  
WLF GPR

## Part 1: Estimated Number of Potential Evacuees.

## BEGIN LOG:

- |                                      |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. DOD Personnel                     | 6                               |
| 2. Dependents of DOD Personnel       | 0                               |
| 3. Other USG Personnel               | 29                              |
| 4. Dependents of Other USG Personnel | 37                              |
| 5. American Residents                | 2,100                           |
| 6. American Tourists:                |                                 |
|                                      | 3rd QTR 4th QTR 1st QTR 2nd QTR |
|                                      | 20 20 25 25                     |
| 7. Other Potential Evacuees          | 150                             |
| 8. Total:                            | 2,347                           |

\*Item 5: Number of American Citizens actually registered  
at Port - 650 (Most of those registered are  
Americans of Guyanese descent.)\*Item 7: This figure includes 1) American personnel and  
dependents on contracts with the USG (USAID);  
2) local employees of the Embassy, USAID & USIA;  
3) estimated number of aliens who are immediate  
relatives of U.S. Citizens.

END LOG.

FORM 88-100

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ATTN: FMO/MS/MS/MS

7/11/73

38

CHARGE: [illegible]

[illegible] (in draft)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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EODS or KDS EXT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_

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RELEASE DATES: [illegible]

FA or FOY EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

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Georgetown A-31

DATA UNCLASSIFIED

Part II:

A. Businessmen	3
B. Employees	0
C. Students (13 years and older)	0
D. Missionaries, clergy	35
E. Dependents of above	65
F. Retired and their dependents	100
G. Others	1,900
H. Total of all private residents in district	2,103

Notes G: Approximately 1,100 of this figure are currently residing in the Northwest District of Guyana in the Peoples Temple Agricultural Community. Remainder are minor children left here by American citizens of Guyanese descent and U.S. citizen children of permanent residents who are working and living in the U.S.

DATA UNCLASSIFIED



PA-L

352

619

ITEM : 980 ( ) info about specific individual request

TOP/SUBTOP (1): guyana/people's temple-intro  
TYPE OF DOC.: issue  
CREATE DATE: JAN-25-78  
UPDATE DATE: MAY-31-78  
AIDE: WB

PCD:

On behalf of Sscarter,vance (,)SS I want to thank you  
for your communication concerning the situation at the  
People's Agricultural Temple in Guyana.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY	DATE
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PA	FEASCH(2)

03115347034



ITEM : 981 ( ) info about specific individual request

TOP/SUBTOP (1): guyana/people's temple  
TYPE OF DOC.: issue  
CREATE DATE: JAN-25-78  
UPDATE DATE: JUN-05-78  
AIDE: WB

RCD:

As part of the traditional and internationally sanctioned protection services, officers of the American Embassy in Georgetown, Guyana, periodically visit the People's Agricultural Temple located at Jonestown, Guyana. These officers have been free to move about the grounds and speak privately to any individuals, including persons who were believed by their family and friends to be held there against their will. It is the opinion of these officers, reinforced by conversations with local officials who deal with the People's Temple, that it is improbable anyone is being held in bondage. In general, the people appear healthy, adequately fed and housed, and satisfied with their lives on what is a large farm. Many do hard, physical labor, but there is no evidence of persons being forced to work beyond their capacity or against their will.

Should you have a specific individual about whom you want information, please provide the name of the person and the person's date and place of birth to the Office of Special Consular Services, Department of State, Washington, D.C. 20520. During the next visit to the People's Temple by an officer of the American Embassy, that officer will attempt to speak privately with the individual in question, convey your concern, and report to you.

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PA-L

354

621

ITEM : 982 ( ) custody case

TOP/SUBTOP (1): guyana/john stoen-intro  
TYPE OF DOC.: issue  
CREATE DATE: JAN-25-78  
UPDATE DATE: MAY-31-78  
AIDE: WB

PCD:

On behalf of Escarter, Vance (,) I want to thank you for your communication concerning the custody case of John Victor Stoen, which is currently in the courts in Guyana.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

FOR NOT IDS ENT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_

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Handwritten text: 6227

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/NOR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
APPROVED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
REASON FOR REVIEW \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE OF REVIEW \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE OF NEXT REVIEW \_\_\_\_\_

John Stoen

PERSONS

case are American citizens.  
on one side and the People's  
an organization that also

Our Ambassador and his staff in Guyana have taken an interest in the case, but have emphasized that the interest of the United States is confined to assuring that the matter is fairly and impartially adjudicated in the courts strictly on its merits and without outside interference from any quarter. Consistent with this position, the Embassy has avoided taking any sides in what is essentially a civil dispute between two groups of Americans. Nor has any pressure been brought by the Embassy on the Government of Guyana or its courts, which have yet to rule on the matter, in favor of one side or the other.

The inquiries made by the American Embassy on behalf of the child's parents were normal protective services that any American citizen abroad could expect to receive from his government. The inquiries were not attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of Guyana and, indeed, have not been interpreted as such.

While we in the Department of State sympathize very much with Mr. and Mrs. Stoen in their efforts to regain custody of their son, regrettably there is little we can do to be of assistance. Neither the Department of State nor the courts of the State of California have the authority to enforce a U.S. court decision concerning the custody of John Victor as long as he is physically located outside of the United States. Child custody orders issued in the United States are normally not accepted for enforcement in another country on the basis of comity. While any American custody decision might be given evidentiary weight in the Guyanese proceeding, by no means will it be binding on that court.

Since the initiation of the custody suit in Georgetown, the Department of State and our Embassy in Guyana have been in close contact with the Stoens and their attorneys, both American and Guyanese. The Embassy has attended all court

proceedings, when permitted to attend, and has assisted the Stoens in gaining access to Guyanese Government officials. The Embassy has regularly had conversations with the opposing attorneys and has spoken with Mr. Jim Jones, the head of the People's Temple. As Mr. Jones is also an American citizen and entitled to the same rights and protection as Mr. and Mrs. Stoen, the Embassy has been careful to avoid prejudicing the outcome of the dispute. It is the Embassy's responsibility to seek to ensure that the judicial outcome of the dispute results from a fair and impartial determination of the merits of the case, and all of our efforts are so directed.

031507030



DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR  
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
 REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 RDSE/OF M... DATE July 11, 1978  
 TO AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_  
 EXCISE/...  
 DECISION/...  
 RELEASE/...  
 PA or FBI/...  
 Mr. William J. Byers, Acting

PA-weekly  
 623

TO: PA - Mr. William J. Byers, Acting  
 FROM: PA/PC/CM - Susan M. Raufe

PUBLIC MAIL REPORT  
July 3-7, 1978

Due to the four-day work week, we received a slightly smaller volume of mail (906 pieces) during this period. White House mail totaled 266 pieces and the Vice President's mail numbered 39. We received 188 messages addressed to the Secretary as well as 407 general Departmental letters.

Individually Written Letters

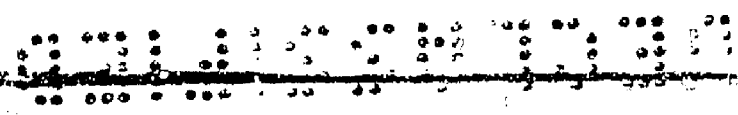
79 sought justice for specific Soviet Jews. By far the greatest number called for U.S. intercession on behalf of Ida Nudel, Vladimir Slepak and Anatoliy Shchabaranskiy. Others asked the President to help bring Jessica Katz to the United States for medical treatment or to intervene on behalf of Marat and Klaudia Osn, who seek to immigrate to Israel.

18 letters, mostly from Greek-American organizations or individuals, opposed the Administration's efforts to lift the Turkish arms embargo.

10 correspondents denounced the killing of Lebanese civilians by the Syrian Army.

Campaign Mail

184 printed form letters from Cuban-Americans in the Miami area appealed to the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary for special and humanitarian consideration in the extradition proceedings of Gustavo Castillo and Gasper Jimenez, who are accused of murder and attempted kidnapping in Mexico.



46 wrote in support of the People's Temple in  
Jonestown, Guyana and sought clarification of the De-  
partment's position on the Temple.

During the week we have completed work on the following language:

<u>CODE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>PIS</u>	<u>TAPE</u>
416	Ida Nudel and Vladimir Slepak		X
425	Raoul Wallenberg		X
421	Arrest of Jay Crawford in Soviet Union		X
430	Sale of Advanced Technology to Soviet Union		X
955	Travel to Cuba		X

PA/PC/CM:SMH:gas  
X21394:7/11/78

cc: PA/PC-PA, CB, JK; PA/M-DN, BR  
PA/PP-JM; PA/FOI-BE; PA/Press  
Public Affairs Advisers  
USUN-Office of Public Affairs  
HA -Ms. Dorian  
E/CAC-Coordinator

H-Mr. Bennet  
H-Ms. Folger  
AID/OPA-Mr. Dadian  
ACDA/PA-Mr. Pope  
C-Mr. Nimetz

[illegible]

1. #1: PA/PC/CH - Susan M. Gould *SG*

The trials of Anatolii Shcharanskiy, Alexander Ginsberg and Vladimir Slepak aroused the anger of many Americans who consequently wrote the Secretary, boosting this week's mail volume close to the 1,500-piece mark. The White House referred 223 letters to us, we were assigned 1,085 messages addressed to the Secretary and we received 169 general information requests.

50 communications, primarily from national and local Jewish organizations, denounced the trials of Anatoliy Shecharanskiy, Alexander Ginsberg, and Vladimir Glopak and called for U.S. intercession on their behalf.

17 protested the bombing of Lebanese civilians by Syrian forces.

Old majorities addressed to the Secretary, primarily from the Denver, Phoenix and Miami areas, urged the Administration to speak out against the trials of Malinovsky, Slonak, and Ginsberg. They asked the Secretary either to protest the trials directly to Soviet authorities during the arms control talks, to postpone his meeting with Andrei Gromyko, or to reevaluate the wisdom of pursuing a SALT TWO Agreement in view of the Soviets' apparent disinclination to honor their commitments on human

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

RDS ☐ or KDS ☐ EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. REASON(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING •

12-20-64

100-443887-100

1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26



rights. We understand that the White House received 993 letters on this subject, 6 to 1 in favor of U.S. intercession, which will be answered by White House staff members.

270 Cuban-Americans in Florida called on the U.S. Government to stop extradition proceedings of Gustavo Castillo and Gaspar Jimenez, who are accused of murder and attempted kidnapping.

49 San Franciscans sought Departmental support for the People's Temple in Jonestown, Guyana.

PA/PC/CM:SMH:te:gaz  
X21394:7/18/78

CORRESPONDENCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
Public Mail Statistics

	<u>Incoming</u>	<u>Outgoing</u>	<u>On hand</u>
White House	223	343	245
Secretary's and Department's	1,254	350	875
V. P.'s Mail	<u>1</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>16</u>
Totals	1,478	735	1,136*

\* The vast majority of these letters are awaiting language on Shcharanskiy and Ginsberg, which we expect from EOR shortly.

The White House telephone survey gave us an 80% during this period.

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STANDARD LANGUAGE REQUESTED BUT NOT YET RECEIVED

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Action Bureau</u>	<u>Date Requested</u>
The Trial and sentencing of Anatoliy Shcharanskiy and Alexander Ginsberg	EUR	7/11
Violence in Rhodesia	AF	7/17
Beirut bombing and ADF	NEA	7/10
Zenz and McDaniel, two American women imprisoned in Turkey	CA/SCS	7/11

DECLASSIFIED

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

2/5

PA - weekly  
625

TO: The Secretary

March 15, 1978

FROM: PA - Hodding Carter III

PUBLIC MAIL REPORT  
March 6 - 10, 1978

Mail volume continued to rise last week as the Correspondence Management Division received 3,791 pieces (1,100 more than the week before). The White House forwarded 2,500+, we were assigned 321 letters addressed to you, and 439 information requests also reached us.

1,323 correspondents expressed their hope that the Panama Canal treaties will be rejected by the Senate.

330 protested the sale of F-5's to Egypt or F-15's to Saudi Arabia. Many suggested that by introducing more arms into the area we are endangering Israel's defense capability and the Middle East peace negotiations.

246 people, many of them young students, protested the Japanese slaughter of porpoises and dolphins.

163 Californians wrote urging the U.S. Embassy not to interfere with the judicial system in Guyana. They focused specifically on the child custody case of John Victor Stoen, who is currently living in the People's Temple in Guyana with the Reverend Jim Jones while his parents seek his return to the United States.

92 letters reproached Deputy Assistant Secretary Shelton for her reported comments about an improved human rights situation in Nicaragua. They also demanded that no U.S. tax dollars go to "prop up" Nicaragua's "blatant violations of human life."

70 letters protested the construction of an electricity-generating plant in Atikokan, Ontario, fearing harm to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in Minnesota.

PA/PC/CH:SMH:ufe:gan  
K21394:3/13/78

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY _____	DATE _____
RDS or IDS EXT. DATE _____	
TS AUTH. _____	REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE/EXISTING MARKINGS <input type="checkbox"/>	
DECLASSIFIED/RECLASSIFIED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
RELEASE PERIOD: _____	
EXEMPTIONS _____	

DECLASSIFIED

- 2 -

During the week we have completed work on the following language:

<u>CODE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>PIS</u>	<u>TAPE</u>
031	Wilfred Burchett		X
033	Sex Pistols		X
035	The Custody of John Victor Stoen		X
036	The People's Temple in Guyana		X
313	Eurocommunism		X
317	Conditions in Ukraine		X
349	Vladimir Slepak Family		X
937	Human Rights and Security Assistance to Nicaragua		X
980	Cuba - Departure From		X
1102	The Horn of Africa - Ethiopia and Somalia		X

PA/PC/CH:SHG:gas

X21394:3/13/78

cc: PA/PC-PA, CB, JK; PA/M-CF, BE  
PA/PP-JH; PA/POI-BE; PA/Press-JO  
Public Affairs Advisers  
USUN-Office of Public Affairs  
HA -Ms. Derian  
E/CAC-Coordinator

H-Mr. Pirrung  
H-Ms. Folger  
AID/OPA-Mr. Dadian  
ACDA/PA-Mr. Pope  
C-Mr. Nimetz

DECLASSIFIED

**CORRESPONDENCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION**  
**Public Mail Statistics**

	<u>Incoming Mail</u>	<u>Outgoing</u>	<u>On hand</u>
White House	2,219	2,527	1,556 *
Secretary's and Department's	1,260	834	946
V. P.'s Mail	<u>312</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>104</u>
Totals	3,791	3,435	2,606

\* Primarily a few days' intake of Panama, Middle East and Rhodesia mail.

The White House reported on March 10 that their telephone survey indicated that 100% of the correspondents they called whose letters were referred to us had received a response after three weeks.

DECLASSIFIED

PA - weekly

(626)

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TO: PA - Hodding Carter III

FROM: PA/PC/CM - Susan M. Haufe

SUBJECT: PUBLIC MAIL REPORT  
June 5-9, 1978

A normal summertime low number of letters reached us this week; we received a total of 754 pieces -- 246 from the White House, 68 from the Vice President's office, 214 addressed to the Secretary and 226 publication and information requests. With an absence of any campaign mail or any one issue stimulating much correspondent interest, the mail focused lightly on a wide variety of issues.

70 discussed U.S. policy in the Middle East, primarily opposing the sale of aircraft to Saudi Arabia and Egypt and calling for continued strong U.S. support for Israel.

42 protested Soviet human rights violations.

22 requested that the Administration maintain diplomatic relations and the mutual defense treaty with the Republic of China.

20 called on the Department to support by actions its report supposedly defending the conditions in the People's Temple run by the Reverend Jim Jones in Jonestown, Guyana.

11 either objected to any U.S. efforts in assisting the Government of Zaire to protect its territory against rebel forces or deplored the atrocities which occurred there.

11 discussed U.S.-Cuban relations. Although several viewpoints appeared, for the most part correspondents questioned improved U.S. relations with Cuba due to Cuban involvement in Africa.

PA/PC/CM:SHAufe:gas  
X21394:6/12/78

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY _____	DATE _____
REASON FOR REJECTION. DATE _____	
TS AUTH. _____	REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
DECLASSIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> RECLASSIFIED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
RELEASE DIRECTION _____	
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____	

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

- 2 -

During the week we have completed work on the following language:

<u>CODE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>PYS</u>	<u>TAPE</u>
419	Jessica Katz		X

PA/PC/CH:SMH:life:gas  
X21394:6/12/78

cc: PA/PC-PA, CB, JK; PA/H-DN, BR  
PA/PP-JM; PA/POI-BE; PA/Press  
Public Affairs Advisers  
USUN-Office of Public Affairs  
HA -Ms. Derian  
E/CAC-Coordinator

H-Mr. Beane  
H-Ms. Folger  
AID/OPA-Mr. Dadian  
ACDA/PA-Mr. Pope  
C-Mr. Nimetz

DECLASSIFIED



DECLASSIFIED PA - Weekly  
627



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BRIEFING MEMORANDUM  
REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
RDS/OT RDS/EXT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_  
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☒  
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒  
RELEASE DENIED ☐  
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

TO: The Secretary

FROM: PA - Jimmy Carter III HC

PUBLIC MAIL REPORT  
June 12-16, 1978

A renewed interest in Soviet Jewry and the People's Temple in Guyana pushed this week's mail total to 837 pieces. The White House sent us 327 messages and the Vice President's offices referred 32 to us, we were assigned 234 of your letters and we also received 164 general Departmental information requests.

93 Decried Soviet treatment of its Jewish citizens, with particular concern expressed about the severe sentence given to Vladimir Slensk and the situations of Anatoliy Shcharanskiy, Jessica Katz, and Pavel Abramovich.

74 people, primarily from the San Francisco area, wrote you in support of the People's Temple in Jonestown, Guyana. They pointed out that both the relatives of the occupants of the People's Temple and the State Department reported positively on their findings concerning the Temple and asked why the Department does not defend the Temple against further harassment. Others sought to discredit reporter Kathy Hunter's allegations about the Temple.

22 warned the Administration against improving relations with Cuba.

17 called upon Chilean President Pinochet to discuss the whereabouts of the "disappeareds," which would consequently bring about the end of the hunger strike in Santiago's UNICEF building.

PA/PC/CM:SMH:afe:gas  
X21394:6/19/78

DECLASSIFIED

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- 2 -

During the week we have completed work on the following language:

<u>CODE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>PIS</u>	<u>TAPE</u>
420	The Case of Yuri Orlov in the U.S.S.R.		X
433	Imperial Russian Government Dollar Bonds		X
506-510	SALT II - Pro		X
511-516	SALT II - Con		X

PA/PC/CH:SMH:gas

X21396:6/19/78

cc: PA/PC-PA, CB, JK; PA/M-DN, BR  
 PA/PP-JH; PA/POI-BE; PA/Press  
 Public Affairs Advisers  
 USUN-Office of Public Affairs  
 HA -Ms. Derian  
 E/CAC-Coordinator

H-Mr. Bennet  
 H-Ms. Folger  
 AID/OPA-Mr. Dadian  
 ACDA/FA-Mr. Pope  
 C-Mr. Nimetz

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RECORDED

CORRESPONDENCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
PUBLIC MAIL STATISTICS

	<u>Incoming</u>	<u>Outgoing</u>	<u>On hand</u>
White House	387	408	489
Secretary's and Department's	398	522	448
V. P.'s Mail	<u>52</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>105</u>
Totals	837	959	1,042

As of this writing, the White House could not locate last week's telephone survey results. Should they be found, I will report the findings next week.

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Language Requested But Not Yet Received

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Requested From</u>	<u>Date</u>
Sami Esmail	CA/SCS	6/13
Zaire	AP/C	6/7, 6/13, 6/16
Mexican Extradition Case	ARA/MEX	6/16
U.S. Policy Toward ROC & PRC	EA/PRCH	6/15

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

PA - weekly  
628

TO: The Secretary  
FROM: PA - Hodding Carter III

PUBLIC MAIL REPORT  
June 19-23, 1978

6/5  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/PA  
June 27, 1978  
REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
FOR XEROX EXT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_  
ENDORSE EXISTING REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
DECLASSIFIED/RELEASABLE ☒  
RELEASE DENIED ☐  
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

Boosted by two mail campaigns on Latin American issues, this week's correspondence volume totaled 1,252 pieces. The White House forwarded 296 letters to us and the Vice President's office sent 55. The Correspondence Management Division also received 561 of your letters and 340 pieces addressed to the Department in general.

Individually Written Messages

52 encouraged the Administration to protest Soviet harassment of Jewish citizens, particularly Vladimir Slepak, Ida Hudel, Anatoliy Shcharanskiy and Joseph Begun.

40 letters focused on U.S.-Soviet relations. Many discussed Soviet and Cuban involvement in Africa. Most of these either warned us against entering another Vietnam-type situation or applauded recent statements by various Administration officials which they perceived to show greater U.S. courage in "standing up to the Russians."

20 debated the importance of a SALT II agreement. Approximately one half strongly supported an agreement; many of these argued that we must not permit Soviet involvement in Africa to jeopardize our negotiations. The other half discouraged a SALT II agreement by warning of Soviet world domination plans and of their alleged violations of previous agreements.

17 Midwestern correspondents wrote to you protesting site preparation for the construction of a coal-burning power plant in Atikokan, Ontario, 40 miles north of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area.

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16 people, many of them attorneys, asked the President to sign the Optional Protocol to the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which would reportedly allow U.S. citizens to complain about human rights violations in this country.

Campaign Mail

189 letters from the San Francisco area, many similarly worded, pointed out what they viewed as a discrepancy between the Department's written policy on the People's Temple in Jonestown, Guyana and the statements of one of CA's press spokesmen about the Department's attitude toward the Temple.

148 printed form letters from Miami protested the findings of a Federal Magistrate that Gustavo Vestillo and Gaspar Jimenez are extraditable for allegedly attempting to kidnap the Cuban Consul in Merida, Mexico in July, 1976.

SMH:gas  
221394:6/26/78

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- 3 -

During the week we have completed work on the following language:

<u>CODE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>PIS</u>	<u>TAPE</u>
746-747	Atrocities in Cambodia		X
713-714	Food Aid to Vietnam and Laos		X
436	Reply to Marvin Stone and John Barron Articles		X
437	Telephone Bugging by Soviets		X
421	Background Efforts re Shadrin		X
358	"Flying University" in Poland		X
156	Taizir al-Aruri		X
152-155	Sami Esmail		X

PA/PC/CM:SMH:gas  
X21394:6/26/78

cc: PA/PC-PA, CB, JK, PA/M-DN, BR  
PA/PP-JM, PA/POI-BE, PA/Press  
Public Affairs Advisers  
USUN-Office of Public Affairs  
HA -Ms. Dexian  
E/CAC-Coordinator

H-Mr. Bennet  
H-Ms. Folger  
AID/OPA-Mr. Dadian  
ACDA/PA-Mr. Pope  
C-Mr. Nimetz

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RECEIVED PA Weekly

7813366

629

GS file

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1978

JUL 5 1978

BUREAU OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

TO: The Secretary

FROM: PA - Hodding Carter III

PUBLIC MAIL REPORT  
June 26-30, 1978

Continuing interest in the People's Temple in Guyana and the possible extradition to Mexico of two alleged kidnapers pushed this week's mail volume above the 1,300-piece level. The White House referred 364 letters and the Vice President's office transferred 44 letters to us, we were assigned 460 letters addressed to you and 477 letters sent to Department officers also reached us.

Individually Written Letters

88 communicated their concern about the plight of Jews in the Soviet Union. The vast majority deplored the sentences recently given to Ida Nudel and Vladimir Slepak and sought U.S. efforts to secure their release. Several others requested that the United States exert some influence on Soviet authorities who are refusing to permit Jessica Katz and her parents to emigrate to the United States, where proper medical treatment is available for Jessica.

48 discussed a wide variety of topics regarding the Middle East; some sought release of Sami Esmail, others objected to arms sales to Arab nations, and a few suggested that we are interfering in the negotiations between Israel and Egypt.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFYING ☐ REASABLES ☐

RELEASE ☐

PA of Re: 22-3-1086



Campaign Mail

158 letters addressed to you denounced the "conspiracy" or "propaganda" attacks allegedly being directed against the People's Temple in Jonestown, Guyana, applauded the Temple's achievements in education and international friendship, and urged the Department's support for the project. Almost all of these letters arrived from San Francisco or Oakland.

94 residents of the Miami area signed printed form letters to you or to the Deputy Secretary opposing the possible extradition of Gustavo Castillo and Gaspar Jimenez to Mexico for allegedly attempting to kidnap a Cuban diplomat.

37 printed forms from the Chicago vicinity called on you to help ten dissidents from the Baltic States obtain exit visas from Soviet authorities. Among those specifically listed were Mrs. Marija Jurgutis, Nicole Sadunaite and Viktorus Petkus.

PA/PC/CN:SMH:ute:gas  
x21394:7/5/78

DECLASSIFIED

- 3 -

During the week we have completed work on the following language:

<u>CODE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>PIS</u>	<u>TAPE</u>
227	- Nicaragua/Chariton		X
201	Panama Treaty Dates		X

PA/PC/CM:SMH:UTE:gas  
X21394:7/5/78

cc: PA/PC-PA, CB, JK; PA/M-DH, BR  
PA/PP-JM; PA/POI-BE; PA/Press  
Public Affairs Advisers  
USUN-Office of Public Affairs  
HA -Ms. Darian  
E/CAC-Coordinator

H-Mr. Bennett  
H-Ms. Folger  
AID/OPA-Mr. Dadian  
ACDA/PA-Mr. Pope  
C-Mr. Nimetz

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STANDARD LANGUAGE REQUESTED BUT NOT YET RECEIVED

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Action Bureau</u>	<u>Date</u>
Parole of 25,000 Additional Vietnamese Annually	HA	6/20, 6/29

DECLASSIFIED



# REPORTER PUBLICATIONS

1366 Turk Street  
San Francisco, CA 94115  
(415) 531-5775

**METRO REPORTER GROUP (VAC)**  
Published Monday -  
Circulation 78,986

San Francisco Metro  
(24,741)

Feminine Metro  
(12,347)

Bay Area Metro  
(8,396)

Oakland Metro  
(12,372)

Richmond Metro  
(8,821)

Vallejo Metro  
(4,188)

San Joaquin Metro  
(7,062)

TOTAL 78,383

**THE SUN REPORTER (ABC)**  
Published Thursday  
Circulation 9,422

**THE CALIFORNIA VOICE (VAC)**  
(The Weekender)  
Published Saturday  
Circulation 28,500

President Jimmy Carter  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

President Carter:

I am writing as co-founder and managing editor of the Sun-Reporter newspaper in San Francisco, the leading paper of the black community, and as a long time supporter of Rev. Jim Jones and the Peoples Temple Christian Church, of the Disciples of Christ Denomination.

I have found Rev. Jones and his church to follow the precepts of Jesus Christ more diligently than does any other group that professes to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ. He has practiced and preached a philosophy of loving thy brother for many years.

Rev. Jones is in Guyana presently, heading a remarkable project which reminds one of the pioneers of earlier days, particularly in the U.S., who paved the unknown to carve out homes in uninhabited areas. The project, which impressively sustains close to 1500 people at this time, has drawn acclaim from religious, secular and governmental leaders.

The past year has brought constant attack by legal and non-legal means, at the instigation of former members of the church who apparently unable to cope with the responsibilities of being their brother's keeper, have turned to cruelly avenge a standard they could neither encompass nor disregard.

I have been dismayed to learn in recent weeks that the relentless campaign to reverse Jonestown's phenomenal success has taken a new and ugly turn. Whereas the opponents of Jim Jones have been unable to reach his work by opening their minds, they are attempting to physically force the doors of Jonestown open to persons who have vowed they would destroy the newly-settled land, if not by the power of the pen, or the persecution of lawmakers, then by violence and force.

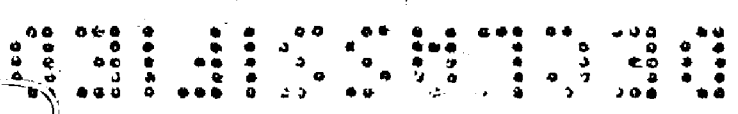
Many distributing incidents confirm this. Kathy Hunter, a Ukiah California Journalist who insisted upon visiting Jonestown only to adamantly refuse the welcome she was offered, is the key to a whole new wave of defamatory attempts. Now unable to produce any facts which could confirm fiction about Jonestown life, the proud young nation of Guyana is itself being dragged to an avowed slaughter of your administrative policies in the Caribbean. Any and every justification is being promulgated to interfere with the affairs of that sovereign nation, to make Jonestown the victim and Guyana the hostage host.

News Journals Dedicated To The Cause Of The People

• The Metro Reporter Group • The Sun Reporter • The California Voice

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/WR  
REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_  
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐  
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☒  
RELEASE DENIED ☐  
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_



page 2.

It is clear that the participation of our government only adds fuel to the destructive impetus that has already taken the form of threats of mercenaries and every type of chicanery and design. As the attempts escalate to draw international attention to the scene, the U.S. government itself faces the volatile choice of supporting its ambassadors of goodwill abroad, or supporting one of the cruelest attempts of our time to impede the progress of these missionaries of goodwill.

Government agencies investigating Rev. Jones and the Peoples Temple should cease to do so. If all the churches of this nation shared but a small portion of the goodwill, honesty and concern for the public welfare that the Peoples Temple has, we would be a nation of such honest, law abiding Christians that the very agencies that are used to persecute Rev. Jones would become extraneous to the public good.

Moreover, I fear that this persecution, with its strong political overtones would also be politically unwise. I would recommend that rather than acceding to the cruel injustice of harassing Rev. Jones, government should turn its full attention to uncovering and dismantling the web of conspiracy that has made this persecution possible. In that effort, government, church, and the law alike would prosper and you would show yourself in great measure, to be a guardian of the peace.

Very truly yours,

*Tom Fleming*

Tom Fleming, Managing  
Editor, San Francisco  
Sun-Reporter

TF:vly

cc: Secretary of State Cyrus Vance  
Frank Tuzminia,  
Jerome Kurtz, Commissioner IRS  
Richard Wiley, Commissioner, FCC  
Joseph Califano, HEW

Thomas Fleming, Managing Editor  
The San-Reporter Newspaper  
1866 Turk Street  
San Francisco, CA. 94115



Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance  
2201 "C" Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20520

JUL 18 1978



# INTERNATIONAL HOTEL TENANTS ASSOCIATION

255 KEARNY ST. SAN FRANCISCO 94108

982-4289 982-1783

President Jimmy Carter  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear President Carter:

Special Message to the People  
Ernest De Groot, Jr., Chairman  
David Roberts, Vice-Chairman  
Walter Torgler, Secretary  
Cassius Ayles  
Ruth Ayles  
So Ching  
Cecilia DeGroot  
Lynn DeGroot  
Ruth DeGroot  
Elizabeth DeGroot  
Helen DeGroot  
Ruth DeGroot  
Ruth DeGroot

As a Chairman of the International Hotel Tenants Association and an activist for the Third World Community, I have worked closely with many organizations and senior citizens in San Francisco and the Bay Area over a period of years. The smear campaign that Rev. Jim Jones and the Peoples Temple have undergone is an old tactic used to discredit activist organizations, but in this case it has not worked. Too many people have benefited from the widely used services of the Temple's human service ministry, and too many organizations and community leaders have worked first hand with Temple leaders and representatives to believe anything that might appear negative about them in the press. Some 2,000 Temple members showed in support of my own organization when we were under attack. It is interesting to also note that the City's District Attorney could find nothing actionable in the list of allegations against the Peoples Temple.

Peoples Temple is building a first class city in Jonestown, Guyana, where 500 American youth and senior citizens, many of them dandled educational and housing opportunities in America, or were in fear of being snugged on the streets, worried about their children becoming pimps, prostitutes, or dope addicts, have gone with their families to build a city of good will that has been visited by many dignitaries and governmental leaders from around the world.

Peoples Temple is accomplishing good will through the use of its own radio sat. Former members who had tried to subvert the organization, threatened to instigate investigation by federal agencies such as the IRS and the FCC if they were unable to convince people to take up violent means to vent their anger, rather than work peacefully through the system as the Temple has always encouraged. Close compliance with FCC regulations has allowed for first class medical care to be brought into the jungle and for countless inhabitants to be taken care of outside of Jonestown. Also there has been a continual stream of contacts, several thousand, made by Rev. Jones to strengthen U.S.-Caribbean friendship. The State Department has visited many times and found Jonestown to be a thriving community with the residents productive and happy.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ROSE FOR EDS/EXT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
TO AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED/RELEASABLE ☐

RELEASE DEDUCT ☐

PA OF FOR EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

Whatever you can do to encourage and support what Rev. Jones and the Peoples Temple are doing in Guyana, would certainly be appreciated by their many friends and supporters.

Sincerely yours,

  
Earl De Garmen Jr.

cc: Mr. Cyrus R. Vance, Dept. of State  
Mr. Jerome Kartz, I.R.S.  
Mr. Richard Wilby, F.C.C.  
Mr. Joseph Califano, E.E.W.

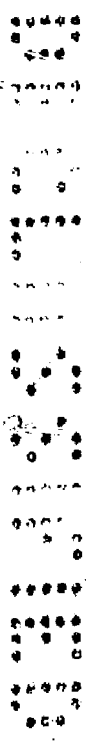


Mr. Bill De Guzman, Jr.  
250 Kearny Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

12-11-71  
11-11-71



Mr. Cyrus R. Vance  
U.S. State Department  
2201 "C" Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20520



15

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East Bay Provisions  
955 57th Street  
Oakland, CA 94608



President Jimmy Carter  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

AUG 23 1978

GUYANA

Dear President Carter:

AUG 24 1978

As preacher in the Full Gospel Pentecostal Church, and established in this faith for several decades, I would like to bring to your attention the outstanding human service work of another church in the religious community. Rev. Jim Jones, founding minister of the Peoples Temple, and recently recognized as one of the hundred most outstanding ministers by Religion in American Life, has worked for twenty-five years to bring people of different faiths together despite theological, economic, ethnic, or racial differences. Because of his success in establishing a membership of thousands, and his spreading the message that Christ, our personal Saviour, was fearlessly committed to a world of racial and economic equality, he and his church have been attacked by a handful of detractors. These people have managed to momentarily attract the attention of the media through ridiculous lies, false allegations, and sensationalistic smears about this obviously deeply committed Christian work. It reminds us of Scriptures warning that those that work for good "will suffer persecution".

I am pleased to see that Rev. Jones has ignored these attacks, knowing I am sure that the truth in the end will be victorious. He is presently building a New Testament community in Jonestown, Guyana, in South America, where 1500 of his membership have in only four years carved a city out of a virgin jungle. Two thousand visitors including the United States State Department, the U.S. Ambassador to Guyana, and numerous other governmental officials as well as scientists and teachers from Guyana and throughout the Caribbean have filled the guest register book with statements of praise.

Scripture also states that Jesus took onto His shoulders the burden of government. These fine Christians through their human service ministry, have attempted to fulfill Matthew 23 in feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and ministering to those in prison. I have been privileged to donate thousands of pounds of meat to aid their programs. I hope you will invoke the authority of your high office and put an end to these senseless attacks so that Christians across this country will know that one working as hard as Rev. Jones is to practice the Gospel, has the blessing and protection of the President.

In Christ's name,

*Malcolm H. Young*  
Malcolm Young

Pastor of Full Gospel Pentecostal Church

cc: Mr. Charles Ferris, F.C.C.  
Mr. Jerome Kurtz, I.R.S.  
Mr. Joseph Califano, H.E.W.  
Mr. Cyrus Vance, State Department

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/HR	
REVIEWED BY _____	DATE _____
REASON(S) ENDORSE EXISTING HANDINGS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
DECLASSIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> RELEASE DATE _____	
PA OF FOI EXEMPTIONS _____	

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**EAST BAY MOVING CO., INC.**  
955 57th Street  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94617



Mr. Cyrus Vance  
Secretary of State  
2201 16th Street North West  
Washington, D.C. 20520

FORWARDED

AUG 15 1978

PA

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REVIEWED BY		DATE
RDS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>July 16, 1978</i>		
TS AUTH.	REASON(S)	
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS <input type="checkbox"/>		
DECLASSIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> RELEASABLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
RELEASE DENIED <input type="checkbox"/>		
PA or FOI EXCEPTION		

Dear (Mrs) Rashlyn Carter,

We are the concerned relatives.  
 We are individuals having only one bond  
 in common, relative isolated in Joes  
 town jungle/encampment in Guyana  
South America under the total control  
 of one man, Jim Jones.

If I am not taking to much, will you  
 Please read these reports from the jungle  
 and see what Jim Jones is doing to the  
 America People. He have took their freedom  
 and rights from them. Will you please  
 see that we get some help to get our  
 families out of that Concentration Camp for  
 more information call Attorney Steven (415) 391-5020

Respectively, Yours

Malik Mickel

345-7219

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PETITION THREATENING PRIME MINISTER FORBES BURNHAM  
TO STOP REV. JAMES WARREN JONES FROM FURTHER VIO-  
LATIONS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF OUR RELATIVES IN  
GUYANA

TO: HONORABLE FORBES BURNHAM, PRIME MINISTER OF THE COOPERA-  
TIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA, SOUTH AMERICA

From: "Concerned Relatives": Parents and relatives of child-  
ren and adults under the control of Rev. James Warren  
Jones at "Jonestown", Northwest District, Guyana

Date: May 10, 1978

We, the undersigned 57 petitioners, are the grief-stricken  
parents and relatives of the hereinafter-designated persons now  
living in your country.. We respectfully entreat you to attend  
to the following facts:

1. In June 1977 Rev. James Warren Jones ("Jim Jones")  
left the United States for Guyana as he was about to be exposed  
in the press for fraud, brutality to children, and taking prop-  
erties by false pretenses. Jim Jones has never returned to the  
United States to answer these charges.

2. Since June 1977 Jim Jones has induced more than 1,000  
United States citizens to become permanent residents of Guyana  
at his jungle encampment leased from your government. He calls  
this encampment "Jonestown".

3. Jim Jones at this moment is flagrantly and systematic-

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ally carrying out the following acts and abuses on all Jonestown residents, including our relatives:

- a. Stations guards around Jonestown and threatens the residents with death if they attempt to leave;
- b. Confiscates their passports and money;
- c. Employs physical intimidation and psychological coercion as part of a mind-programming campaign aimed at destroying family ties, discrediting belief in God, and causing contempt for the United States of America, as well as for all other nation states, including Guyana;
- d. Deprives them of their right to privacy, free speech, freedom of association, and freedom of movement by:
  - (1) Prohibiting telephone calls;
  - (2) Prohibiting individual contacts with all "outsiders", including Guyanese;
  - (3) Censoring all incoming and outgoing mail;
  - (4) Extorting silence from relatives in the U.S. by threats to stop all communication;
  - (5) Preventing our children from seeing us when we travel to Guyana (five of us have tried).

4. The foregoing acts are documented in the "Accusation of Human Rights Violations by Rev. James Warren Jones Against Our Children and Relatives at the Peoples Temple Jungle Encampment in Guyana, South America", a copy of which is attached. These acts of Jim Jones are a clear violation of the Guyanese Constitution and of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as quoted in the aforesaid Accusation. The physical intimidation is a violation of the penal code of Guyana.

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5. On April 11, 1978 we served the aforesaid Accusation on Peoples Temple officials in San Francisco. The Accusation set forth a number of demands for relief, including a demand that Jones permit and encourage our relatives to return to the United States for a one-week visit home at our expense, return fare being guaranteed.

6. On April 12, 1978 we sent two copies of this Accusation to you as Prime Minister of Guyana. One copy was sent via the Guyanese Embassy in Washington, D. C., and the other directly to Georgetown, Guyana. In our cover letter we asked you, as "the one person in the world with power" over Jones, to take action to stop his violations of human rights. We have received no response from you.

7. On April 17, 1978 Jim Jones responded to our demands for relief by staging a press conference in the office of his attorney in San Francisco, wherein our relatives in Jonestown read scripts over a radio-phone network praising "the integrity, honesty, and bravery" of Jim Jones and falsely denouncing us as child molesters, sexual deviates, dope addicts, and terrorists, as well as manifesting other symptoms of mind-programming. (In order to show the falsity of these charges, Steven Katsaris on May 2, 1978 voluntarily submitted himself to a professional polygraph examination. The report, dated May 3 and attached hereto, concludes: "It is the opinion of the examiner, based on Katsaris' polygraph charts, that he is telling the truth.")

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8. On April 18, 1978 Jones intimated once again a threat so chilling as to be incomprehensible to the average decent person. In our Accusation we had demanded Jones clarify the following sentence in a March 14, 1978 letter on Peoples Temple stationery addressed "to all U. S. Senators and Members of Congress":

"I can say without hesitation that we are devoted to a decision that it is better even to die than be constantly harrassed from one continent to the next."

On April 18 Jones issued a Press Release on Peoples Temple stationery with the following "clarification" (page 4):

"And we, likewise, affirm that before we will submit quietly to the interminable plotting and persecution of this politically motivated conspiracy, we will resist actively, putting our lives on the line, if it comes to that. This has been the unanimous vote of the collective community here in Guyana."

9. On April 26, 1978 we served an advance version of this Petition on the Honorable Joseph D'Oliviera, Honorary Consul for the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, Los Angeles, California.

10. We respectfully submit to you, Mr. Prime Minister, that the foregoing evidence shows that Jonestown, Guyana has taken on the characteristics of a "concentration camp", and that you, as the leader of Guyana, would do well to analyze the mentality of its leader so as to anticipate its potential for causing extreme damage to Guyana's reputation in the international community.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE RESPECTFULLY ask that you, HONORABLE FORBES BURNHAM, in your capacity as PRIME MINISTER OF GUYANA, take the following action to protect the human and legal rights of our relatives in Guyana before it is too late:

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1. Immediately order the Minister of Home Affairs and the Commissioner of Police to launch an ongoing investigation into Jones' violations of the Guyanese Penal Code and Constitution.

2. Immediately order "Bishop Jim Jones" (as he presents himself to you) to cease and desist from the unlawful acts itemized in the attached Accusation, with particular orders for him to:

- a. Remove all guards stationed around Jonestown;
- b. Return to our relatives their passports and money;
- c. Permit them to mix with the local Guyanese as individuals;
- d. Permit them to make telephone calls to us in private at our expense when in Georgetown;
- e. Permit them to receive all mail individually addressed to them, and to read the same in private;
- f. Permit them to mail letters they write in private without being opened by Jones or his staff.

3. Immediately order Jones to permit and encourage our relatives to return to the United States for a one-week home visit at our expense, so as to test whether or not they are being held against their will, upon our guarantee of return fare should they choose to return.

4. Immediately order Jones to abide by the lawful orders of courts in the United States with respect to the custody of our relatives.

5. If Jim Jones refuses to abide by your orders, expel him from Guyana so that Jonestown can become a democratic society in accordance with the Guyana Constitution.

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6. Notify our spokesman, Steven A. Katsaris, Trinity School, 915 West Church Street, Ukiah, California 95482 (telephone 707-462-8721) of your willingness to protect the human and legal rights of our relatives.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

CONCERNED RELATIVES

(Summarized Listing of Petitioners Attached)

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# HARMAN & SHAHGHEEN Associates, Inc.

AN AMERICAN POLYGRAPH CORPORATION  
Members: American Polygraph Association, California Association of Polygraph Examiners

GEORGE W. HARMAN  
1403 MARKET STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO 34, CALIF.  
415-663-3281

ROBERT J. SHAHGHEN  
200 N. FIRST STREET  
SAN JOSE 95113  
408-267-5223

## CONFIDENTIAL REPORT:

May 3, 1978

No. P-8013

Mr. Timothy Oliver Stone  
2 Channing St. Law  
120 Montgomery Street  
San Francisco, California

On May 2, 1978, Steven A. Katsaris voluntarily came to this office for a polygraph examination. The main issue under consideration involved allegations of sexual molestation made against him by his daughter, Maria Katsaris. Maria is presently with the People's Temple Church in Guyana. During Mr. Katsaris' attempts to get his daughter away from this church, the allegations of sexual molestation were made by some of the officials of the People's Temple Church. No specific, public statements along this line were made by Maria Katsaris. Among other charges made against Katsaris by the People's Temple Church was the statement that he was involved with a right-wing congressman in a conspiracy to destroy People's Temple Church.

During Mr. Katerinis' pre-test interview, he maintained he has never made any sexual advances whatsoever toward his daughter, Maria. He also insisted that he has never been involved in any conspiracy with a congressman to destroy People's Temple Church.

There were no significant emotional disturbances indicative of deception reflected in Mr. Katerinis' polygraph charts when he answered "No" to the following test questions:

"Did you ever make any sexual advances toward Maria Katerinis?"

"Did you ever try to have sexual intercourse with your daughter, Maria?"

"Did you ever sexually fondle any part of Maria's body?"

"Did you ever plan with any congressman to destroy People's Temple Church?"

It is the opinion of the examiner, based on Katerinis' polygraph charts, that he is telling the truth on the above-listed questions.

Yours very truly,

WILLIAM A. HANSEN ASSOCIATES, INC.

*George W. Hansen*  
GEORGE W. HANSEN

CH-104

This report is limited by the results of the polygraph test. It is not intended to be used as evidence in any court of law, and the only person or persons to whom it is being furnished are those specifically named in the order.

May 10, 1978

## SUMMARY LISTING OF PETITIONERS WITH RELATIVES IN JONESTOWN, GUYANA

<u>Name of Relative at Jonestown</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Petitioners to Forbes Burnham and Cyrus Vance</u>	<u>Relationship to Petitioner</u>
1. Wagner, Mark	16	Richard Wagner (San Francisco)	Son
2. Harris, Liane	21	Sherwin Harris (Lafayette) Elizabeth Harris (Lafayette)	Daughter Sister
3. Ponte, Donna	15	Don Ponte (Ukiah) Cynthia Beam (Ventura)	Daughter Half-sister
4. Oliver, William S.	18	Howard Oliver (San Francisco) Beverly Oliver (San Francisco)	Son Son
5. Oliver, Bruce H.	20	Howard Oliver & Beverly Oliver	Son
6. Katsaris, Maria	24	Steven A. Katsaris (Ukiah)	Daughter
7. Rozynko, Michael	20	Sandy Rozynko Mills (Oakland) Steve Mills (Oakland)	Brother Bros.-in-law
8. Rozynko, Chris	22	Steve Mills & Sandy Rozynko Mills	(Same)
9. Rozynko, Joyce	54	Sandy Rozynko Mills Steve Mills	Mother Mother-in-law
10. Stoen, John Victor	6	Grace Stoen (San Francisco) Timothy O. Stoen (San Francisco)	Son Son
11. Sly, Mark A.	17	Neva Jean Sly (San Francisco)	Son
12. Sly, Donald E.	42	Neva Jean Sly	Husband
13. Houston, Patricia	14	Robert H. Houston (San Bruno) Nadyne L. Houston (San Bruno) Carol Boyd	Grandchild Grandchild Niece
14. Houston, Judy Lynn	13	Robert & Nadyne Houston; Carol Boyd	(Same)
15. Kerns, Carol Ann	19	Ruth Reinhardt (Davis) Phil Kerns (Portland, Oregon) Dolly Petersen (Riverside)	Sister Sister Grandchild
16. Kerns, Ellen Louise	51	Ruth Reinhardt & Phil Kerns Dolly Petersen	Mother Daughter
17. Harris, Magnolia	61	Sylvia White (San Francisco) Lelnaola White (San Francisco)	Mother Grandmother
18. Lopez, Vincent	17	Walter Jones (San Francisco)	Legal Guardian
19. Simon, Marcia	22	Leon Simon (Oakland)	Daughter
20. Simon, Barbara	22	Leon Simon	Daughter
21. Johnson, Berda T.	88	Frances Baxter (Los Angeles)	Mother

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<u>Name of Relative at Jonestown</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Petitioners to Forbes Burnham and Cyrus Vance</u>	<u>Relationship to Petitioner</u>
22. Griffich, Mary M.	52	Rose Davis (San Francisco) Carnella Truss (San Francisco) Louise Blanchard (San Francisco)	Aunt Mother Sister
23. Cobb, John	18	James Cobb, Jr. (San Francisco)	Brother
24. Cobb, Brenda	15	James Cobb, Jr.	Sister
25. Cobb, Sandra	21	James Cobb, Jr.	Sister
26. Cobb, Joel	12	James Cobb, Jr.	Brother
27. Cobb, Christine		James Cobb, Jr.	Mother
28. Brown, Ava	26	James Cobb, Jr.	Sister
29. Brown, John (Jones)	28	James Cobb, Jr.	Brother-in-law
30. Touchette, Charles	47	Mickey Touchette (San Francisco) Marvin Swinney (South Carolina)	Father Brother-in-law
31. Touchette, Joyce	45	Mickey Touchette Marvin Swinney	Mother Sister
32. Touchette, Al	23	Mickey Touchette Marvin Swinney	Brother Nephew
33. Touchette, Michael	25	Mickey Touchette Marvin Swinney	Brother Nephew
34. Touchette, Michelle	19	Mickey Touchette Marvin Swinney	Sister Niece
35. Swinney, Cleve	63	Mickey Touchette Marvin Swinney	Grandfather Father
36. Swinney, Helen	65	Mickey Touchette Marvin Swinney	Grandmother Mother
37. Swinney, Tim	39	Mickey Touchette Marvin Swinney	Uncle Brother
38. Berry, Diana	7	Carnella Truss (San Francisco)	Daughter
39. Griffith, Marrian	15	Carnella Truss	Sister
40. Griffith, Emmett Jr.	20	Carnella Truss	Brother
41. Griffith, Amanda	17	Carnella Truss	Sister
42. Kice, Thomas D.	43	Wayne Pietila (Petaluma)	Step-father
43. Kice, Thomas D., II	12	Wayne Pietila	Half-brother
44. Chaikin, Eugene	46	Raphael Chaikin (Newport Beach)	Brother

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reached Jonestown convinced me that Rev. Jones had sufficient control over the minds of the residents that it would be possible for him to effect a mass suicide.

31. At least once a week, Rev. Jones would declare a "white night", or state of emergency. The entire population of Jonestown would be awakened by blaring sirens. Designated persons, approximately fifty in number, would arm themselves with rifles, move from cabin to cabin, and make certain that all members were responding. A mass meeting would ensue. Frequently during these crises, we would be told that the jungle was swarming with mercenaries and that death could be expected at any minute.

32. During the "white night", we were informed that our situation had become hopeless and that the only course of action open to us was a mass suicide for the glory of socialism. We were told that we would be tortured by mercenaries if we were taken alive. Everyone, including the children, was told to line up. As we passed through the line, we were given a small glass of red liquid to drink. We were told that the liquid contained poison and that we would die within 45 minutes. We all did as we were told. When the time came when we should have dropped dead, Rev. Jones explained that the poison was not real and that we had just been through a loyalty test. He warned us that the time was not far off when it would become necessary for us to die by our own hands.

33. Life at Jonestown was so miserable and the

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physical pain of exhaustion was so great that this event was not traumatic for me. I had become indifferent as to whether I lived or died.

34. During another "white night", I watched Carolyn Layton, my former sister-in-law, give sleeping pills to two young children in her care, John Victor Stoen and Kimo Prokes, her own son. Carolyn said to me that Rev. Jones had told her that everyone was going to have to die that night. She said that she would probably have to shoot John and Kimo and that it would be easier for them if she did it while they were asleep.

35. In April, 1978, I was reassigned to Georgetown. I became determined to escape or die trying. I surreptitiously contacted my sister, who wired me a plane ticket. After I received the ticket, I sought the assistance of the United States Embassy in arranging to leave Guyana. Rev. Jones had instructed us that he had a spy working in the United States Embassy and that he would know if anyone went to the embassy for help. For this reason, I was very fearful.

36. I am most grateful to the United States government and Richard McCoy and Daniel Heber, in particular, for the assistance they gave me. However, the efforts made to investigate conditions in Jonestown are inadequate for the following reasons. The infrequent visits are always announced and arranged. Acting in fear for their lives, Temple members respond as they are told. The members appear

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to speak freely to American representatives, but in fact they are drilled thoroughly prior to each visit on what questions to expect and how to respond. Members are afraid of retaliation if they speak their true feelings in public.

39. On behalf of the population of Jonestown, I urge that the United States Government take adequate steps to safeguard their rights. I believe that their lives are in danger.

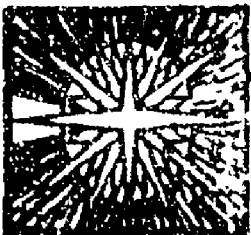
I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, except as to those matters stated on information and belief and as to those I believe them to be true.

Executed this 15 day of June, 1978 at San Francisco, California.

5

*Deborah Layton Blakey*  
DEBORAH LAYTON BLAKEY

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PEOPLES  
OF THE  
TEMPLE  
PEOPLE OF EARTH  
Finn Jones,  
Pastor

March 14, 1976

TO ALL U.S. SENATORS AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS:

We at Peoples Temple have been the subject of harassment by several agencies of the U.S. Government, and are rapidly reaching the point at which justice is demanded. Richard Prechter's demands which demanded from our organization whom we refused to follow that value some have been conducting a campaign against us. Two of them, Michael Curtiss and Jim Cobb, were seriously charged with kidnapping several years ago. These men are persons who have been about here long enough to see the FBI and FBI and what they do to get back at Peoples Temple. They also would usually to spread whatever they would see to it that our group of over 1,000 U.S. citizens (currently conducting a highly successful agricultural project in Guyana) were served by having funds sent off from the U.S. To date, several agencies have been attempting various forms of harassment. There was the Social Security, which tried to deny legitimacy, beneficiaries of their claims by cutting off all checks that were sent to Guyana. Through the harassment of a few persons government officials, we were able to have this returned as it should have been.

Then, however, we see that the FBI and Treasury Department and even the Federal Communications Commission, are trying to isolate ways to cut off our leaders. The FBI has evidently decided to pursue a very active campaign that was implemented a year ago. It is clear that the intention is to disrupt our financial system of communication, business affairs. Each week we receive thousands of letters from supporters, business and contributions with dollars in the U.S. have finally moved here and have supported thousands of people in this part of the world. We consistently prefer the U.S. over the others and would rather support of U.S. policy in the Caribbean and several the world, especially with non-aligned nations. It seems utterly cruel to deny such a large group of Americans of their only means of quiet communication with the U.S. The common history that you would want to see this, we would put in any way conditions such an organized effort to "seize our" hundreds of U.S. citizens, who are working to see to peace and to a credit to the U.S. citizens. These men speak and demand in the press would seek to destroy any progressive thinking official.

Our corporate project in Guyana has been cited by people the world over as an example of a new hope for the U.S. This project and the efforts of Peoples Temple were recently printed in the magazine One World, a publication of the World Council of Churches. Even Richard Nixon's magazine has printed this work and done so in spite of the strong support of American people of Jewish descent, an obvious disagreement. We receive letters weekly from Russia, as well as from people in other parts of the world who have heard of the project, offering advice and assistance. In fact, several countries have been made from Russia, which now our entire business is a form of national persecution. We do not want to take assistance from any people nor do we want to become an international issue. We also do not intend to be accused of by having our legitimately earned business cut off through the efforts of Prechter's people and authorized authorities. We have no political ambitions whatsoever. We have been quiet this last 3 months working to develop a project in Guyana. We wish to continue to do so without and without. This project has done a great deal of practical good for the U.S., not only in providing a positive image in a place where many of the population have been of a high level, but also in a very tangible way. Recently, the citizens of our nation we have moved the U.S. by calling people off and off and sending more from hundreds of other would send some seriously in the hundreds of thousands. More importantly than that, there have been used that would have been used for destruction. It seems cruel that anyone would want to isolate this type of humanitarian business in an international issue, but it is equally evident that people cannot forever be essentially harassed and belittled by such tactics without making themselves that have been persecuted. I can say with one hundred percent that we are devoted to a decision that it is better even to die than to be constantly harassed from one continent to the next. I hope you can look into this matter and protect the rights of over 1,000 people from the U.S. to live in peace.

3-14-76  
Finn Jones

P.O. Office Box 15000, S. Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33304

PEOPLES OF THE TEMPLE

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AFFIDAVIT OF YULANDA D. A. CRAWFORD SHOWING  
THE TEACHINGS AND PRACTICES OF REV. JAMES  
WARREN JONES IN GUYANA, SOUTH AMERICA

I, Yulanda D. A. Crawford, certify as follows:

1. I was in Guyana, South America as a member of Peoples Temple from April 1, 1977 until June 29, 1977. Rev. James Warren Jones ("Jim Jones"), the leader of Peoples Temple, was in Guyana most of April and during the latter part of June, at which times I witnessed the following statements and practices by him.

2. Jim Jones said that the United States is the "most evil" nation in the world, referring to its political and industrial leaders as "capitalistic pigs". He said he would rather have his people dead than live in the United States.

3. Jim Jones prior to June said that people would be coming to live in Guyana for a temporary period of time. In June Jim Jones stated that the people he brings over from the United States will be staying in Guyana "permanently".

4. Jim Jones said that nobody will be permitted to leave Jonestown and that he was going to keep guards stationed around Jonestown to keep anybody from leaving. He said that he had guns and that if anyone tries to leave they will be killed ("offed") and their bodies will be left in the jungle and "we can say that we don't know what happened to you." He also said, "I can get a hit man for fifty dollars. It's not hard for me to get a hit man anywhere."

5. While still in the United States, Jim Jones asked the Temple members to turn all their guns over to him. I also saw ammunition being packed in crates for shipment to Guyana addressed to Peoples Temple from San Francisco. I heard Jim Jones say, "If anyone tries to start anything, we are ready and prepared to die for our cause."

6. Jim Jones said that black people and their sympathizers were going to be destroyed in the United States, that "the Ku Klux Klan is marching in the streets of San Francisco, Los Angeles, and cities back east". There was "fighting in the streets, and the drought in California is so bad, Los Angeles is being deserted".

7. Jim Jones said that everyone should turn in their passports and all their money to him, that nobody is to visit any local Guyanese people unless on a "mission" and in the company of other Temple members, that nobody is to make any telephone calls to relatives, that nobody was to send any mail to the United States without first getting it "cleared". All incoming mail was first received by Temple secretaries and read before being shown to the person addressed.

8. Jim Jones said that "I will lay my body down for this cause" and asked others to make the same promise, which they did by a show of hands, and also asked them to commit themselves to kill anyone attempting to hurt him.

9. Jim Jones ordered all of us to break our ties with families. He said that our highest and only loyalty should be "the cause", and that the only reason for staying in touch with our families was to collect inheritances when "they died off" and to keep them pacified "so as not to make trouble for the cause".



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13. I heard him state to the congregation in Guyana that Marshall Kilgaff, who wrote the first articles exposing him, was dead. He said, "The angels have taken care of him". We all knew the "angels" were his people who would do you in if you crossed Jim Jones.

14. Jim Jones ordered all telephone calls to relatives in the United States to be made in the presence of Temple members and after coaching. When my mother tried to call her brother in the United States and got him to stop criticizing the Temple, Jim Jones stood by her side and told her everything she was to say and then faulted her for not being successful enough. He ordered us to tell our relatives in the United States to stop criticizing him or we would not be allowed to return home.

13. On numerous occasions I was in the congregation when he told us "I am God" and "there is no other God, and religion is the opium of the people." He stated he used religion only to get to the masses.

14. I recall several instances of Jim Jones, stating he could silence critics or defectors by accusing them of being homosexuals, child abusers, terrorists or mental deranged.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed at San Francisco, California on April 10, 1978.

*[Handwritten signature]*

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
ON April 10 1938  
before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared John W. J. O'Connell  
known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

WITNESSED my hand and official seal this 10th day of April 1938.

*[Signature]*  
Notary Public in and for the State of California

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## Temple Trouble

In the poor-black Fillmore district of San Francisco, the Rev. Jim Jones is revered as a good Samaritan with patrons in very high places. As pastor of the People's Temple, one of the largest interfaith churches in California, Jones not only claims God's power to heal the sick but also wields palpable clout among city and state political leaders. The governor, lieutenant governor, mayor, sheriff and district attorney have all visited the temple and, during the 1976 Presidential campaign, Jones himself shared a platform with Ronald Reagan.

Last December, the charismatic preacher who has mustered black voters was named chairman of the San Francisco Housing Authority Commission by Mayor George Moscone. But now Jones stands accused by 30 former temple members of building his power through fear, fraud, physical beatings, the appropriation of parishioners' property and possible misuse of government funds.

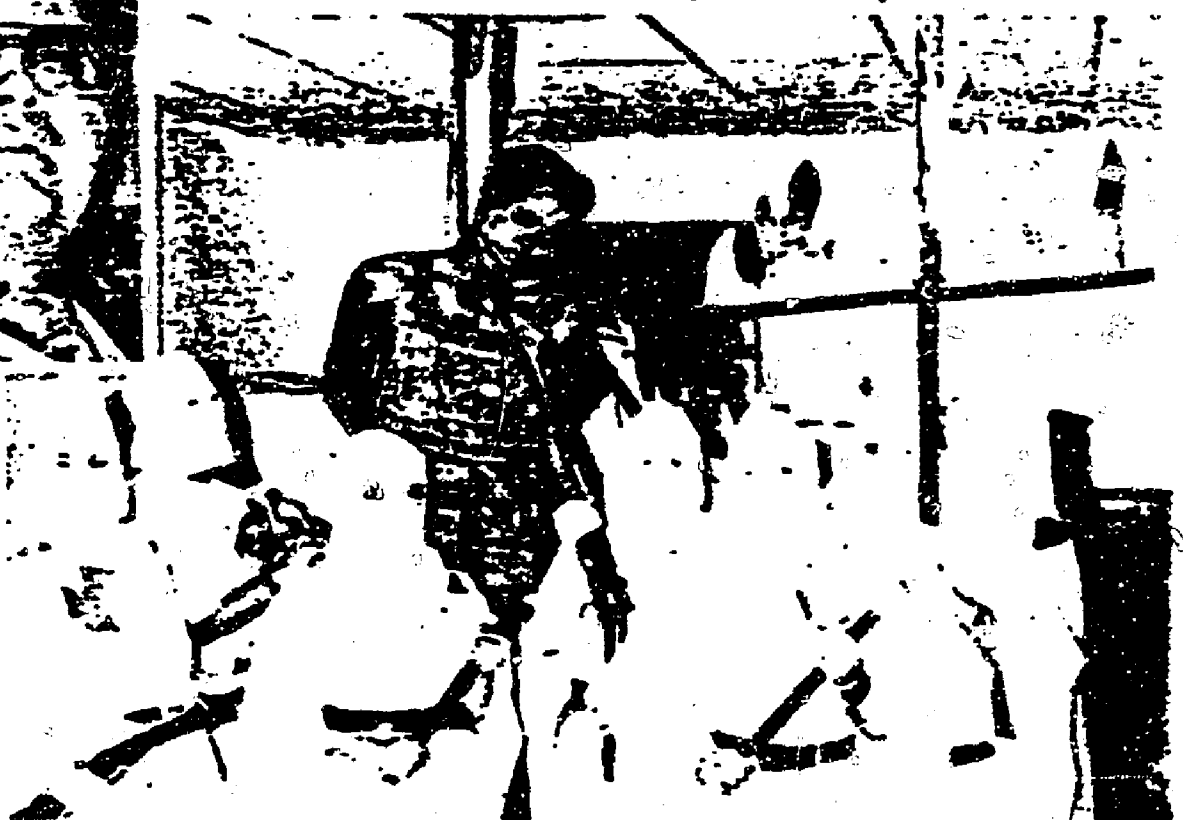
The accusations were published in two August issues of *New West* magazine, which called for an investigation of the temple's financial and disciplinary practices. Church representatives promptly denied the charges. But in a pair of surprise moves last week, Jones resigned from the Housing Authority and District Attorney Joseph Freitas announced that he would look into the accusations.

**Cotney:** No one has yet filed a formal complaint against Jones, who temple officials said was unreachable at the church's 27,000-acre South American farm colony in Guyana. The city's most powerful politicians still seem solidly behind the controversial minister. Mayor Moscone has said he saw no evidence that Jones had broken any laws and, in a recent Sunday-morning sermon at the temple, black state Assemblyman Willie Brown lauded the attacks "a measure of [the church's] effectiveness."

Jones preaches a religious socialism that he himself, it appears, is the first to practice. His church, which claims 20,000 members statewide, sponsors a drug-rehabilitation program, a free restaurant and medical clinic and a legal-aid service. More radically, Jones encourages his flock to give up their private property and live in low-rent apartments leased by the church from the city. Jones and his wife live modestly above the temple, where they are raising a multiracial family of seven adopted children plus their own son. But his social activism also is expressed as politics, and on Election Day, the poor deliver for their leader. In two recent close races for

mayor and district attorney, Jones's regimented followers were considered important to the winners.

According to some former church members, however, Jones's power is based as much on fear and fraud as on faith. His services are often held behind locked doors, and even then Jones is protected by bodyguards. The breakaway parishioners described ritual beatings and humiliating group encounters held at all-night sessions. A former secretary to Jones reported that the preacher faked healings by displaying chicken guts as tissue he had miraculously removed from cancer patients. Others said they had been persuaded into donating over their homes to the church.



Jones (inset), Klan drama: 'That's why people turned over all they had'

and had been talked into giving the temple government funds they received for running foster-care homes.

When *New West* first considered investigating the People's Temple, the editors were barraged with pleas from politicians and businessmen to kill the story. When the editors persisted, some were harassed at home by anonymous callers. Meanwhile, other local newsmen reported similar coercion and only when word of the pressure campaign appeared in a local newspaper column did ex-members of the temple volunteer to tell of their experiences.

In separate interviews with *New West*, former followers of Jones corroborated the *New West* report. Micki Tou-

chette, 28, told how she and eleven other students slept in a crowded garage and were given a weekly dole of \$2 each as members of a temple commune. Touchette, who is white, said that Jones, who is part American Indian, told them "how ugly and horrible it was to be white," and "not to have sex because we were all latent homosexuals."

**KOK:** Laura Cornelius, 52, a black woman, said that Jones promised his followers a haven in Guyana when, as he predicted, Fascists took over the U.S. "He said they had a plan to exterminate blacks like they did the Jews," Cornelius recalled. She also described a ritual by temple members that dramatized a Ku Klux Klan lynchings. "That's why people turned over all they had," she said. "He told us the whites would take it."

Others reported threats against their lives if they dared talk to police and said

that they had been made to sign false confessions to crimes such as conspiracy against the government. "Jim always said he had an in with the police," said Deanna Myrtle, 38, "so we thought going to the police would be suicide."

Church officials have issued statements countercharging that some of the dissenters were terrorists and child molesters. Throughout the controversy, Jones has remained at the Guyana farm, which the church says it funds with \$150,000 annually. And some suspect that the Rev. Mr. Jones may be the first to take up permanent asylum in the Guyana haven.

—KIMBERLY L. WOODWARD with MARK WESTERMAN and STEPHEN GAYLE in San Francisco

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1 TIMOTHY OLIVER STONE  
120 Montgomery Street, Suite 1700  
2 San Francisco, California 94104  
3 Telephone: (415) 391-5020  
4 Attorney for Plaintiffs  
5  
6  
7

8 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

9 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

10 WADE B. MEYLOCK and MARCEL M.  
11 MEYLOCK, husband and wife,

12 Plaintiffs,

No..

13 vs.

14 JAMES WARREN JONES, also known  
15 as JIM JONES; PEOPLES TEMPLE  
16 OF THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST, a  
17 nonprofit corporation; ENOLA M.  
18 NELSON; ENOLA M. NELSON NEALTY;  
19 HUGH FORSYTH; JAMES McELVANE,  
20 and FIRST DOE through FIFTEEN  
21 DOE, inclusive,

22 Defendants.

COMPLAINT FOR COMPENSATORY  
AND PUNITIVE DAMAGES FOR  
CONVERSION BASED ON CONFESSION  
AND FOR INTENTIONAL INFLIC-  
TION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS

23 Plaintiffs allege:

24 FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

25 1. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that  
26 Defendant JAMES McELVANE is, and at all times herein mentioned was,  
27 a resident of the County of Los Angeles, State of California.

28 2. Defendant PEOPLES TEMPLE OF THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST ("PEOPLES  
29 TEMPLE") is, and at all times herein mentioned was, a nonprofit cor-

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1 poration organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of  
2 the State of California. PEOPLES TEMPLE at all times herein mention-  
3 ed represented itself as a church.

4 3. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that  
5 defendant ENOLA M. NELSON is, and at all times herein mentioned was,  
6 a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and doing  
7 business as defendant ENOLA M. NELSON REALTY at 5760 Rodeo Road, Los  
8 Angeles, California.

9 4. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that  
10 defendant JAMES McELVANE is, and at all times herein mentioned was,  
11 a real estate salesman licensed by the State of California and doing  
12 business as a salesman for defendants ENOLA M. NELSON and ENOLA M.  
13 NELSON REALTY.

14 5. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that  
15 defendant JAMES WARREN JONES ("JONES"), also known as JIM JONES,  
16 was at all relevant times herein mentioned the president of defendant  
17 PEOPLES TEMPLE.

18 6. Plaintiffs WADE E. MEDLOCK and HABEL M. MEDLOCK are, and at  
19 all times herein mentioned were, husband and wife and residents of  
20 the County of Los Angeles, State of California.

21 7. Plaintiffs are ignorant of the true names and capacities of  
22 defendants sued herein as FIRST DOE through FIFTIETH DOE, inclusive,  
23 and therefore sue these defendants by such fictitious names. Plain-  
24 tiffs will amend this complaint to allege their true names and capa-  
25 cities when ascertained. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and  
26 thereon allege that each of the fictitiously named defendants is re-

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1 sponsible in some manner for the occurrences herein alleged, and that  
2 plaintiffs' damages as herein alleged were proximately caused by  
3 their conduct.

4 8. Defendants JONES, PEOPLES TEMPLE, ENOLA M. NELSON ("NELSON"),  
5 ENOLA M. NELSON REALTY ("NELSON REALTY"), HUGH FORTSYN ("FORTSYN"),  
6 JAMES McELVANE ("McELVANE"), and FIRST DOE through FIFTIETH DOE, in-  
7 clusive, were the agents and employees of their codefendants JONES,  
8 PEOPLES TEMPLE, NELSON, NELSON REALTY, FORTSYN, McELVANE, and FIRST  
9 DOE through FIFTIETH DOE, inclusive, and in doing the things herein-  
10 after alleged were acting within the course and scope of such agency  
11 and the permission and consent of their codefendants.

12 9. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that  
13 on or about February 1, 1977, in the County of Los Angeles, State of  
14 California, defendants, and each of them, knowingly and wilfully con-  
15 spired and agreed among themselves to unlawfully extort, convert,  
16 and misappropriate from plaintiffs, by fraud and deceit and by threats  
17 of death and bodily harm, the net proceeds from the forced sale of  
18 plaintiffs' real property in the County of Los Angeles, State of Cal-  
19 ifornia, which said defendants knew to have a fair market value of ap-  
20 proximately \$190,000.00 and an equity value to plaintiffs of approxi-  
21 mately \$130,000.00.

22 10. On February 1, 1977 plaintiffs were the owners of two par-  
23 cels of real property, herein referred to respectively as the BALDWIN  
24 HILLS PROPERTY and the SECOND AVENUE PROPERTY, in the County of Los  
25 Angeles, State of California, described as follows:

26 a. BALDWIN HILLS PROPERTY: a three-bedroom house at 4644

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1 Don Zarembo Drive, Los Angeles, California, having a fair market  
2 value on that date of approximately \$125,000.00 and outstanding en-  
3 cumbrances of approximately \$40,000.00, thereby constituting an equity  
4 value in plaintiffs of approximately \$85,000.00.

5 b. SECOND AVENUE PROPERTY: a triplex and five-room house at  
6 3891 and 3891 3/4 2nd Avenue, Los Angeles, California, having a fair  
7 market value on that date of approximately \$65,000.00 and outstanding  
8 encumbrances of approximately \$20,000.00, thereby constituting an  
9 equity value in plaintiffs of approximately \$45,000.00.

10 11. Plaintiffs became members of defendant PEOPLES TEMPLE in  
11 1971, whose minister and president was defendant JONES. In 1975 de-  
12 fendant JONES began to pressure plaintiffs to sell all they had, give  
13 all proceeds from such sales to defendant PEOPLES TEMPLE, and "go  
14 communal". Plaintiffs resisted this pressure, whereupon defendant  
15 JONES gradually increased it. Defendant JONES employed various stra-  
16 tagems to induce plaintiffs to sell the above-described properties,  
17 one approach being that the money was needed to develop the Peoples  
18 Temple Agricultural Mission in Guyana, South America, which was then  
19 being established by defendant JONES.

20 12. Plaintiff WADE B. MEDLOCK is 71 years of age, and plaintiff  
21 MABEL M. MEDLOCK is 67 years of age. Plaintiffs worked together in  
22 their own maintenance business for 33 years to acquire their equity  
23 in the above-described properties as security for their senior years.  
24 Neither plaintiff at any time wished to sell either parcel of pro-  
25 perty or to donate either parcel to anyone, including defendant JONES  
26 and defendant PEOPLES TEMPLE. Plaintiffs were living in the BALDWIN

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1 HILLS PROPERTY as their residence at all relevant times until on or  
2 about August 1, 1977. Plaintiffs had no appreciable assets beyond  
3 the aforesaid properties.

4 13. On or about February 13, 1977 in the County of Los Angeles,  
5 State of California, defendant JONES personally called plaintiffs  
6 into the "council room" of the PEOPLES TEMPLE church building at  
7 1366 Alvarado Boulevard, Los Angeles. Present with defendant JONES  
8 at said time and place were at least seven other members of defendant  
9 PEOPLES TEMPLE, including defendants FORTSYN, NELSON, and McELVANE,  
10 all acting as agents for defendant JONES. Defendant JONES at said  
11 time and place presented to plaintiffs certain documents previously  
12 filled out by defendants NELSON, NELSON REALTY, and McELVANE author-  
13 izing the sale of the BALDWIN HILLS PROPERTY and the SECOND AVENUE  
14 PROPERTY. The sales prices were listed substantially lower than the  
15 fair market values in order to expedite immediate sales. When plain-  
16 tiffs hesitated, defendant JONES personally order them to sign the  
17 documents by stating to plaintiffs the following threat:

18 You will either sign these papers or  
19 you will die. We are not taking your  
property but just protecting it.

20 14. Plaintiffs interpreted the aforesaid statement by defendant  
21 JONES as a threat they would be killed if they did not sign the docu-  
22 ments presented by him. Plaintiffs were not permitted to read the  
23 documents nor to ask questions concerning them. Any and all apparent  
24 consents of each plaintiff to the aforesaid authorizations were ob-  
25 tained by defendants solely through duress and menace of unlawful or  
26 violent injury to the person of each plaintiff.

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1 15. At the time of signing the aforesaid documents each plaintiff  
2 was mindful of having heard defendant JONES say with respect to an  
3 individual who had given property to defendant PEOPLES TEMPLE and  
4 then reneged and then died, "I killed him."

5 16. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that  
6 defendant JONES ordered the other defendants to act as his agents in  
7 coercing their signatures on all other documents which would be re-  
8 quired to be signed in escrow in order to result in the proceeds of  
9 the sales of the above-described parcels being taken by defendant  
10 PEOPLES TEMPLE. All apparent consents by plaintiffs to all such other  
11 documents were obtained by defendants solely through reminders of  
12 the aforesaid threat of defendant JONES and solely through said duress  
13 and menace of unlawful and violent injury to the person of each plain-  
14 tiff.

15 17. On May 13, 1977, in the County of Los Angeles, State of Cal-  
16 ifornia, defendants reminded plaintiffs of the aforesaid threat of  
17 defendant JONES and ordered them to sign a document relating to the  
18 escrow of the sale of the BALDWIN HILLS PROPERTY (Escrow Number 1183-  
19 FW) entitled "Escrow Amendment/Supplement" to Escrow Instructions.  
20 A copy of Page 1 of the Disclosure/Settlement Statement for the afore-  
21 said sale is attached as "Exhibit A (Baldwin Hills)" and made a part  
22 hereof. A copy of the aforesaid Escrow Amendment/Supplement is at-  
23 tached as "Exhibit B (Baldwin Hills)" and made a part hereof. The  
24 aforesaid Amendment/Supplement was addressed to Crestwood Escrow Ser-  
25 vice in Inglewood, California, and reads as follows:

26 /////

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1 From sellers net proceeds at close of  
2 escrow, escrow holder is authorized and  
3 instructed to make one-half of net pro-  
ceeds payable to PEOPLES TEMPLE and one-  
half payable to MABEL M. MEDLOCK.

4 The apparent consent of plaintiffs, and each of them, to the afore-  
5 said document was obtained by defendants solely through duress and  
6 menace of unlawful and violent injury to the person of each plain-  
7 tiff.

8 18. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that  
9 defendant JONES, upon learning that plaintiff MABEL M. MEDLOCK had  
10 attempted to withhold from defendant PEOPLES TEMPLE her one-half of  
11 the proceeds from the sale of the BALDWIN HILLS PROPERTY, was furious  
12 and ordered the other defendants to intensify the reminders of the  
13 threats constituting duress and menace as above alleged. On May 17,  
14 1977, in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, defendants  
15 reminded plaintiff MABEL M. MEDLOCK of the aforesaid threats, and or-  
16 dered her to sign a document relating to the escrow of the BALDWIN  
17 HILLS PROPERTY sale in the form of a letter addressed to Crestwood  
18 Escrow Service, a copy of which is attached hereto as "Exhibit C  
19 (Baldwin Hills)" and made a part hereof. Said letter reads as fol-  
20 lows:

21 You have heretofore been handed an in-  
22 struction by me dated May 13, 1977, pro-  
23 viding that certain funds be paid to me  
at the close of Escrow. I now CANCEL  
THAT INSTRUCTION.

24 Instead, please pay all funds due to me  
25 from this Escrow to PEOPLES TEMPLE of  
the Disciples of Christ, a California  
26 Corporation.

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1 The apparent consent and authorization of plaintiff MABEL M. MEDLOCK  
2 to the aforesaid letter was obtained by defendants solely through  
3 said duress and menace of unlawful and violent injury to the person  
4 of each plaintiff.

5 19. On May 13, 1977, in the County of Los Angeles, State of Cal-  
6 ifornia, defendants reminded plaintiffs of the aforesaid threat of  
7 defendant JONES and ordered them to sign a document relating to the  
8 escrow of the sale of the SECOND AVENUE PROPERTY (Escrow Number 1074-  
9 PW) entitled "Escrow Amendment/Supplement" to Escrow Instructions.  
10 A copy of Page 1 of the Settlement Statement for the aforesaid sale  
11 is attached as "Exhibit D (Second Avenue)" and made a part hereof.  
12 The aforesaid Amendment/Supplement was addressed to Crestwood Escrow  
13 Service in Inglewood, California, and reads as follows:

14 From sellers net proceeds at close of  
15 escrow, escrow holder is authorized and  
16 instructed to make one-half of net pro-  
ceeds payable to PEOPLES TEMPLE and one-  
half payable to MABEL M. MEDLOCK.

17 The apparent consent of plaintiffs, and each of them, to the afore-  
18 said document was obtained by defendants solely through said duress  
19 and menace of unlawful and violent injury to the person of each  
20 plaintiff.

21 20. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that  
22 defendant JONES, upon learning that plaintiff MABEL M. MEDLOCK had  
23 attempted to withhold from defendant PEOPLES TEMPLE her one-half of  
24 the proceeds from the sale of the SECOND AVENUE PROPERTY, was furious  
25 and ordered the other defendants to intensify the reminders of the  
26 threats constituting duress and menace as above alleged. On May 17,

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1 1977, in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, defendants  
2 reminded plaintiff MABEL M. MEDLOCK of the aforesaid threats, and or-  
3 dered her to sign a document relating to the escrow of the SECOND  
4 AVENUE PROPERTY sale in the form of a letter addressed to Crestwood  
5 Escrow Service, a copy of which is attached hereto as "Exhibit E  
6 (Second Avenue)" and made a part hereof. Said letter reads as fol-  
7 lows:

8                   You have heretofore been handed an in-  
9                   struction by me dated May 13, 1977,  
10                  providing that certain funds be paid  
                 to me at the close of Escrow. I now  
                 CANCEL THAT INSTRUCTION.

11                  Instead, please pay all funds due to  
12                  me from this Escrow to PEOPLES TEMPLE  
13                  of the Disciples of Christ, a Califor-  
                 nia Corporation.

14   The apparent consent and authorization of plaintiff MABEL M. MEDLOCK  
15 to the aforesaid letter was obtained by defendants solely through  
16 duress and menace of unlawful and violent injury to the person of  
17 each plaintiff.

18       21. On or about July 28, 1977, defendants ordered plaintiffs to  
19 vacate their BALDWIN HILLS PROPERTY residence because escrow was  
20 about to close. Plaintiffs stated to defendants that they would not  
21 have sufficient monies to maintain themselves and requested the sum  
22 of \$10,000.00 from the net proceeds being claimed by defendant PEO-  
23 PLES TEMPLE, but defendants stated to plaintiffs that \$10,000.00 "is  
24 too much" and agreed that plaintiffs should receive the sum of  
25 \$7,000.00 instead.

26       22. The sales of both the BALDWIN HILLS PROPERTY and the SECOND

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1 AVENUE PROPERTY were finalized in escrow on or about August 1, 1977,  
2 in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, at which time the  
3 following net proceeds were paid over to defendant PEOPLES TEMPLE:

4 a. Net proceeds from sale of BALDWIN HILLS PROPERTY:

5 \$37,003.08; and

6 b. Net proceeds from sale of SECOND AVENUE PROPERTY:

7 \$11,506.99.

8 23. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that  
9 in addition to the above-enumerated net proceeds totalling \$48,510.07  
10 paid over to defendant PEOPLES TEMPLE, that defendants NELSON and  
11 NELSON REALTY were ordered under duress by defendant JONES to pay,  
12 and in fact did pay, over to defendant PEOPLES TEMPLE the sum of  
13 \$5,217.00, which represented their real estate sales commission of  
14 \$2,535.00 from the sale of the BALDWIN HILLS PROPERTY and \$2,682.00  
15 from the sale of the SECOND AVENUE PROPERTY.

16 24. At all times herein mentioned, and in particular on or about  
17 July 31, 1977, plaintiffs were, and still are, the owners and were,  
18 and still are, entitled to the possession of the following personal  
19 property: Monies constituting the net proceeds from the sales of the  
20 above-described properties paid over to defendant PEOPLES TEMPLE.

21 25. On or about July 31, 1977, the above-mentioned personal pro-  
22 perty had a value of \$48,510.07, and on that date was in the posses-  
23 sion of plaintiffs at Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, State of  
24 California.

25 26. On or about August 1, 1977, in the County of Los Angeles,  
26 State of California, defendants converted the aforesaid personal pro-

091103-10-1977

1 party to their own use, as a proximate result of which plaintiffs  
2 lost the value of their entire equity in the above-described proper-  
3 ties (less the above-mentioned payment of \$7,000.00), all to plain-  
4 tiffs' damage in the sum of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS  
5 (\$123,000.00).

6 27. At the time of the conversion, defendants were fully aware  
7 that the property was the property of plaintiffs and that plaintiffs  
8 were entitled to possession thereto, and notwithstanding that know-  
9 ledge, defendants wrongfully, maliciously, and with intent to injure  
10 plaintiffs, converted it as hereinabove alleged. By reason thereof,  
11 plaintiffs are entitled to exemplary and punitive damages in the sum  
12 of TWELVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$12,000,000.00).

13  
14 SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

15 28. Plaintiffs reincorporate the allegations of their First  
16 Cause of Action as though fully set forth at length herein.

17 29. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that  
18 on or about June 16, 1977, in the City and County of San Francisco,  
19 State of California, defendants, and each of them excepting defendants  
20 NELSON and NELSON REALTY, knowingly and wilfully conspired and agreed  
21 among themselves to intentionally inflict emotional distress and  
22 mental suffering on plaintiffs should they refuse to follow defendant  
23 JONES to "Jonestown", Guyana, South America, and thereby become un-  
24 able effectively to protest and complain to legal authorities about the  
25 above-alleged unlawful extortion and conversion. Said infliction of  
26 emotional distress and mental suffering was to be done by threats of

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1 death and bodily injury made by persons in the County of Los Angeles,  
2 State of California, who would be selected by, and who would act  
3 upon the express orders of, defendant JONES in Guyana, South America.  
4 Defendant JONES would transmit such orders in pre-arranged code by  
5 courier and by international shortwave amateur radio.

6 30. On or about January 20, 1978, in the County of Los Angeles,  
7 State of California, defendant FORTSYN telephoned plaintiffs and made  
8 the following threat twice, once to each plaintiff:

9 You know what happened to Chris.  
10 Jim wants you to come to Guyana.

11 31. At the time of defendant FORTSYN making the above-mentioned  
12 threat, the defendants, and each of them, knew that plaintiffs would  
13 regard, as they did in fact regard, the name "Chris" as a reference  
14 to Christopher Lewis, a member of defendant PEOPLES TEMPLE and body-  
15 guard of defendant JONES known publicly to have been murdered on the  
16 streets of San Francisco, California in December 1977 shortly after  
17 returning from Guyana, South America. At said time the defendants,  
18 and each of them, also knew that plaintiffs would regard, as they in  
19 fact did regard, the name "Jim" as a reference to defendant JONES.

20 32. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that  
21 defendant JONES on or about January 14, 1978, personally ordered, by  
22 means of courier and amateur shortwave radio, the making of the afore-  
23 said threat, and by the same means dictated its wording, using a pre-  
24 arranged code. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege  
25 that defendant JONES knew and intended that his order would be thus  
26 received and acted upon in the County of Los Angeles, State of Cali-

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1 fornias so as to result in the making of the aforesaid threat and the  
2 consequent injury to plaintiffs.

3 33. Defendants did the acts and things herein alleged pursuant  
4 to, and in furtherance of, the conspiracy and agreement above alleged.

5 34. Upon being threatened by FORTSYN as above alleged, plaintiffs  
6 became fearful that they would be murdered by defendants. As the  
7 proximate result of the aforementioned threat, plaintiffs suffered  
8 humiliation, mental anguish, and emotional and physical distress,  
9 and have been injured in mind and body, all to plaintiffs' damages  
10 in the sum of SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$600,000.00) each.

11 35. As a further proximate result of the aforementioned threat,  
12 plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege they will be  
13 required to employ physicians and surgeons to examine, treat, and  
14 care for them, and may incur medical expenses for hospital bills in  
15 an amount which has not yet been ascertained.

16 36. The aforementioned acts of defendants were willful, wanton,  
17 malicious, and oppressive, and justify the awarding of exemplary and  
18 punitive damages in the amount of TWO MILLION DOLLARS (\$2,000,000.00).

19

20

### THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

21 37. Plaintiffs reincorporate the allegations of their First and  
22 Second Causes of Action as though fully set forth at length herein.

23 38. On or about March 26, 1978, in the County of Los Angeles,  
24 State of California, defendant McELVANE approached plaintiff WADE B.  
25 MEDLOCK. Plaintiff WADE B. MEDLOCK said to McELVANE:

26

I don't believe in Jim anymore.

1 Defendant McELVANE at said time and place then made the following  
2 threat to plaintiff WADE B. MEDLOCK in the presence of plaintiff  
3 MABEL H. MEDLOCK:

4           You better watch out. What happened  
5           to Chris could happen to you.

6           39. At the time of defendant McELVANE making the above-mentioned  
7 threat, the defendants, and each of them, knew that plaintiffs would  
8 regard, as they did in fact regard, the name "Chris" as a reference  
9 to Christopher Lewis as above alleged.

10           40. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege that  
11 defendant JONES on or about March 19, 1978, personally ordered, by  
12 means of courier and amateur shortwave radio, the making of the afore-  
13 said threat, which was to be rendered by defendant McELVANE after  
14 he approached plaintiff WADE B. MEDLOCK and ascertained that said  
15 plaintiff's attitude was one likely to cause trouble for defendants  
16 JONES and PEOPLES TEMPLE. Plaintiffs are informed and believe and  
17 thereon allege that defendant JONES knew and intended that his order  
18 would be thus executed by defendant McELVANE in the County of Los  
19 Angeles, State of California so as to result in the making of the  
20 aforesaid threat and the consequent injury to plaintiffs.

21           41. Defendants did the acts and things herein alleged pursuant  
22 to, and in furtherance of, the conspiracy and agreement alleged in  
23 paragraph 29 herein.

24           42. Upon being threatened by defendant McELVANE as above alleged,  
25 plaintiffs became even more fearful that they would be murdered by  
26 defendants. As the proximate result of the aforementioned threat,

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1 plaintiffs suffered humiliation, mental anguish, and emotional and  
2 physical distress, and have been injured in mind and body, all to  
3 plaintiffs' damages in the sum of SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS  
4 (\$600,000.00) each.

5 43. As a further proximate result of the aforementioned threat,  
6 plaintiffs are informed and believe and thereon allege they will be  
7 required to employ physicians and surgeons to examine, treat, and  
8 care for them, and may incur medical expenses for hospital bills in  
9 an amount which has not yet been ascertained.

10 44. The aforementioned acts of defendants were willful, wanton,  
11 malicious, and oppressive, and justify the awarding of exemplary and  
12 punitive damages in the amount of TWO MILLION DOLLARS (\$2,000,000.00).

13

14 WHEREFORE, plaintiffs pray judgment as follows:

- 15 1. For general damages in the sum of \$2,523,000.00.  
16 2. For medical and related expenses according to proof.  
17 3. For punitive damages in the sum of \$15,000,000.00.  
18 4. For costs of suit herein incurred.  
19 5. For such further and other relief as the court may deem  
20 proper.

21 DATED: June 6, 1978.

22

23

24

25

26

*Timothy Oliver Stoen*

TIMOTHY OLIVER STOEN  
Attorney for Plaintiffs

DECLASSIFIED



RECORDED

1 Trial by jury is demanded on all issues.

2 DATED: June 6, 1978.

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Timothy Oliver Stoen  
TIMOTHY OLIVER STOEN  
Attorney for Plaintiffs

03 JUL 17 1978

VERIFICATION

I am a plaintiff in this action; the foregoing complaint is true of my own knowledge, except as to matters stated in it on my information or belief, and as to those matters I believe it to be true.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on June 6, 1978 at Los Angeles, California.

WADE B. MEDLOCK

MABEL M. MEDLOCK



GREAT WESTERN SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

Form 1004-1  
OMB No. 47-0160

A. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT		B. TYPE OF LOAN:	
DECLARATION/SETTLEMENT STATEMENT		1. <input type="checkbox"/> FHA	2. <input type="checkbox"/> FARM
		3. <input type="checkbox"/> VA	4. <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER, SEE
C. DATE OF SETTLEMENT		D. MONTH, DAY, YEAR	
11-23-68		11-23-68	
E. NOTE: This form is required to be filed in connection with the settlement of a loan. It is to be completed by the lender and the borrower. The lender must complete this form and the borrower must complete the other two forms. The lender must also complete the other two forms if the borrower is a minor or a person under legal disability.			
F. BORROWER'S NAME: DONALD H. MILL			
G. BORROWER'S ADDRESS: 4411 CRENSHAW BL. LOS ANGELES, CA. 90008			
H. LENDER'S NAME: GREAT WESTERN SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION			
I. LENDER'S ADDRESS: 4411 CRENSHAW BL. LOS ANGELES, CA. 90008			
J. DATE OF SETTLEMENT: 11-23-68			
K. DATE OF SETTLEMENT: 11-23-68			
L. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION			
M. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION			
N. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION			
O. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION			
P. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION			
Q. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION			
R. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION			
S. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION			
T. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION			
U. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION			
V. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION			
W. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION			
X. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION			
Y. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION			
Z. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION			

KIMBERLY A. (BALDWIN HILLS)

# Crestwood Escrow Service

430 EAST MANCHESTER BLVD. SUITE 1200  
INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90301  
478-3223

## ESCROW AMENDMENT/SUPPLEMENT

Escrow No. 1183-PW Escrow Officer Pat Worrill Date May 13, 1977

To: **CRESTWOOD ESCROW SERVICE:**

My previous instructions in the above-numbered escrow are hereby modified — supplemented in the following manner only:

From sellers net proceeds at close of escrow, escrow holder is authorized and instructed to make one-half of net proceeds payable to PEOPLES TEMPLE and one-half payable to MABEL M. MEDLOCK. All other terms and conditions are to remain the same.

END OF INSTRUCTION

  
Wade B. Medlock

  
Mabel M. Medlock

  
RETURN TO ESCROW

Each of the above signed copies has been read and the foregoing instructions are understood and agreed to them

EXHIBIT B (BALDWIN HILLS)

DECLASSIFIED

To: CRESTWOOD ESCROW SERVICE  
401 East Manchester Boulevard, Suite 209  
Inglewood, California 90301

Re: Escrow No. 11A3-7W  
Escrow Officer: Pat Worrill

Gentlemen:

You have heretofore been handed an instruction by me dated May 13, 1977, providing that certain funds be paid to me at the close of Escrow. I now CANCEL THAT INSTRUCTION. #

Instead, please pay all funds due to me from this Escrow to PEOPLES TEMPLE of the Disciples of Christ, a California Corporation.

Dated: at Los Angeles, this 17th day of May, 1977.

END OF INSTRUCTION.....

Mabel H. Huslock  
Mabel H. Huslock

Receipt is hereby acknowledged  
of a copy of this document.

Mabel H. Huslock

EXHIBIT C (BALDWIN HILLS)

<p><b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT</b></p> <p><b>SETTLEMENT STATEMENT</b></p>		<p><b>1. TYPE OF LOAN</b></p> <p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> First 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Second 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)</p> <p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> VA 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)</p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Reverse Mortgage 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)</p>	
<p><b>NOTE:</b> This form is provided to give you a summary of actual settlement costs. Amounts paid to and by the borrower are shown on the form. Items marked "T.O.C." were paid outside the closing but are shown here for informational purposes and are not included in the total.</p>			
<p><b>2. BORROWER'S NAME</b></p> <p><b>FRANCIS</b> <b>LARRY D. &amp; BRUNDA BOVIELY</b></p>		<p><b>3. BORROWER'S ADDRESS</b></p> <p><b>BRADSHAW BLVD. E.</b> <b>BRUNDA M.</b></p>	
<p><b>4. PROPERTY LOCATION</b></p> <p><b>1891, 1891 3/4 2nd Ave.</b> <b>Los Angeles, California</b></p>		<p><b>5. SETTLEMENT AGENT</b></p> <p><b>CHARTERED BANKER SERVICE</b> <b>401 E. MANCHESTER BLVD., STE. 209</b> <b>INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90301</b></p>	
<p><b>6. SETTLEMENT DATE</b></p> <p><b>8/1/77</b></p>		<p><b>7. BORROWER'S EMPLOYER</b></p> <p><b>MONTANA MORTGAGE CORP.</b> <b>18406 Hawthorne Blvd.</b> <b>930. 20</b> <b>TORRANCE, CALIF. 90504</b></p>	

<p><b>1. SUMMARY OF BORROWER'S TRANSACTION</b></p> <p><b>101. GROSS AMOUNT PAID FROM BORROWER:</b></p> <p>101. Cash on hand <b>44,700.00</b></p> <p>102. Payment by check <b>1,230.00</b></p> <p>103. Settlement charges to borrower (See 104)</p> <p>104. <b>43,470.00</b></p> <p><b>105. Amounts for items paid by seller or other:</b></p> <p>106. Credit to cash <b>0.00</b></p> <p>107. Credit to cash <b>0.00</b></p> <p>108. Credit to cash <b>0.00</b></p> <p>109. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>110. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>111. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>112. <b>0.00</b></p> <p><b>113. GROSS AMOUNT PAID FROM BORROWER</b> <b>44,700.00</b></p> <p><b>201. AMOUNTS PAID BY OR IN BEHALF OF BORROWER:</b></p> <p>201. Cash on hand <b>1,230.00</b></p> <p>202. Payment by check <b>43,470.00</b></p> <p>203. Settlement charges to borrower (See 204)</p> <p>204. <b>44,700.00</b></p> <p><b>205. Amounts for items unpaid by seller:</b></p> <p>206. Credit to cash <b>0.00</b></p> <p>207. Credit to cash <b>0.00</b></p> <p>208. Credit to cash <b>0.00</b></p> <p>209. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>210. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>211. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>212. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>213. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>214. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>215. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>216. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>217. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>218. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>219. <b>0.00</b></p> <p><b>220. TOTAL PAID BY OR IN BEHALF OF BORROWER</b> <b>44,700.00</b></p> <p><b>301. CASH AT SETTLEMENT FROM BORROWER</b></p> <p>301. Cash on hand due to seller (See 101) <b>44,700.00</b></p> <p>302. Less amounts paid by or for borrower (See 201) <b>1,230.00</b></p> <p><b>303. CASH (L) FROM (S) TO BORROWER</b> <b>43,470.00</b></p>		<p><b>2. SUMMARY OF SELLER'S TRANSACTION</b></p> <p><b>401. GROSS AMOUNT PAID BY SELLER:</b></p> <p>401. Cash on hand <b>44,700.00</b></p> <p>402. Payment by check</p> <p>403. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>404. <b>0.00</b></p> <p><b>405. Amounts for items paid by seller or other:</b></p> <p>406. Credit to cash <b>0.00</b></p> <p>407. Credit to cash <b>0.00</b></p> <p>408. Credit to cash <b>0.00</b></p> <p>409. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>410. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>411. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>412. <b>0.00</b></p> <p><b>413. GROSS AMOUNT PAID BY SELLER</b> <b>44,700.00</b></p> <p><b>501. REDUCTIONS IN AMOUNT DUE TO SELLER:</b></p> <p>501. Cash on hand (See 401) <b>1,230.00</b></p> <p>502. Payment by check (See 402)</p> <p>503. Settlement charges to seller (See 504)</p> <p>504. <b>1,230.00</b></p> <p>505. Credit to cash <b>0.00</b></p> <p>506. Credit to cash <b>0.00</b></p> <p>507. Credit to cash <b>0.00</b></p> <p>508. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>509. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>510. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>511. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>512. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>513. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>514. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>515. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>516. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>517. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>518. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>519. <b>0.00</b></p> <p>520. <b>0.00</b></p> <p><b>521. TOTAL REDUCTION AMOUNT DUE TO SELLER</b> <b>1,230.00</b></p> <p><b>601. CASH AT SETTLEMENT TO BORROWER</b></p> <p>601. Cash on hand due to seller (See 401) <b>44,700.00</b></p> <p>602. Less reductions in amount due to seller (See 501) <b>1,230.00</b></p> <p><b>603. CASH (L) TO (S) FROM SELLER</b> <b>43,470.00</b></p>	
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**EXHIBIT E (SECOND AVENUE)**

# THIS NIGHTMARE IS TAKING PLACE RIGHT NOW

WILL YOU HELP US FREE OUR FAMILIES?

## WHO ARE THE "CONCERNED RELATIVES"?

We are individuals having only one bond in common; relatives isolated in the "Jonestown" jungle encampment in Guyana, South America, under the total control of one man, Jim Jones. We espouse no political or religious viewpoint. Our only concern is for our families. We are bewildered and frightened by what is being done to them. Their human rights are being violated and the fabric of our family life is being torn apart.

## WHAT SPECIFICALLY IS BEING DONE TO OUR RELATIVES?

These are the sad and terrible facts:

\*All decisions in Jonestown are made by one man, Jim Jones. There is no democracy. There is no dissent permitted.

\*Armed guards are stationed around Jonestown to prevent anyone leaving unless given express permission by the leader. 200 guns have been transported in. A "SWAT" team patrols the borders of Jonestown.

\*Passports and monies are confiscated by Jones upon arrival of his members in Guyana so that they cannot be "cleared" by the Immigration Officials to leave Guyana.

\*Long distance telephone calls to the United States are prohibited as part of Jones' campaign that all family ties be cut in favor of his "cause".

\*All incoming and outgoing mail is censored.

\*No one is permitted to leave Jonestown except on business for the "cause" and then only in the company of other residents who are required to spy and report back to Jones.

\*The residents are told that if they try to leave the Peoples Temple organization, they will be killed and their bodies left in the jungle.

\*Their leader, Jim Jones, says publicly that a "unanimous vote" of the 1,000 residents of Jonestown (including children) was taken to put "our lives on the line" if the alleged "harrassment" continues. Jones has held mock "mass suicide" sessions to condition his members to die for "the cause" at the moment he gives the order.

JONESTOWN  
CONCENTRATION CAMP  
GUYANA, SOUTH AMERICA

.....



WHY ARE WE ASKING YOU AS A "CONCERNED CITIZEN" TO HELP?

Because we are desperate and don't know what else to do. Neither the Guyana government nor the United States government thus far has been willing to intervene. Jones simply ignores court orders.

We want our loved ones to be allowed to live in freedom. There appears to be only one way to achieve this -- to publicize the truth and to pressure the Prime Minister of Guyana both directly and through the U.S. State Department. We sent a petition on May 10, 1978, to Prime Minister Burnham requesting him to:

1. Order a governmental investigation of Jonestown with inspectors placed there around the clock.
2. Order Jones to stop violating the human and legal rights of our relatives. Specifically, to order Jones to:
  - a. Remove all guards preventing people from leaving Jonestown;
  - b. Return passports and money;
  - c. Permit our relatives to mix with local Guyanese as individuals;
  - d. Stop censoring mail;
  - e. Permit our relatives to return home for a one-week visit at our expense, return fare guaranteed, to show they are not being held against their will;
  - f. Abide by the lawful orders of the courts in the U.S.
3. Expel Jones from Guyana if he refuses to abide by these orders.

**WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP US?**

**Three Things:**

- \* Pray for the safe return of our loved ones soon, even if only for a one-week home visit at our expense, return fare being guaranteed, so we can know they have free will to choose.
- \* Write to the two officials with power to force Jones to respect human and legal rights:

Honorable Forbes Burnham  
Prime Minister of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana  
Public Buildings  
Georgetown, Guyana, South America  
and

Honorable Cyrus Vance  
Secretary of State of the United States  
2201 "C" Street  
N.W. Washington, D.C. 20520

- \* Give as you feel led to help defray expenses, which are considerable.  
Send your check to:

CONCERNED RELATIVES AND CITIZENS  
120 Montgomery Street, Suite 1700  
San Francisco, California 94104

(An application for tax-exempt status will soon be filed with I.R.S. Our attorneys say "Concerned Relatives and Citizens" meets all the requirements and that approval by the I.R.S. will be retroactive to include donations made now.)

**THANK YOU FROM THE DEPTHS OF OUR HEARTS!**

CONFIDENTIAL

RECAPITULATION

# THE PRESSES DEMOCRAT

San Joaquin, Calif., Monday, June 24, 1936

## Temple sued — couple claims 'threat to kill'

From Sacramento Press  
An elderly Los Angeles couple has sued Mrs. J. W. Temple for \$25,000, claiming that she threatened to kill them if they didn't give their property to the commercial church.

W. A. Madlock, 71, and Helen Madlock, 65, also claim that Temple threatened to harm them to get their "share" of the church, known as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The suit was filed in Los Angeles Superior Court by attorney T. H. Davis, former Sacramento County clerk. Davis is a prominent attorney and is Temple's lawyer.

Temple has tried unsuccessfully to remove the suit from the state court to the federal court.

The Madlocks claim that Temple has stolen from them the church's assets, including the church's bank accounts, and that she has threatened to harm them if they do not give up their property.

According to court records, Temple's lawyers filed a motion to dismiss the suit, claiming that the Madlocks' claims are barred by the statute of limitations.

The Madlocks claim that Temple has stolen from them the church's assets, including the church's bank accounts, and that she has threatened to harm them if they do not give up their property.

According to the Madlocks, Temple has stolen from them the church's assets, including the church's bank accounts, and that she has threatened to harm them if they do not give up their property.

They charged that Temple threatened them to kill them if they did not give up their property to the church, and that she has stolen from them the church's assets.

The Madlocks sought a trial by jury and two hours of testimony.

Temple says that the couple is suing her for nothing.

In February, 1937, they were sued for the unpaid taxes of the Los Angeles Temple, where they claimed they were not members. The Madlocks claim that Temple threatened to harm them if they did not give up their property.

The Madlocks claim that Temple has stolen from them the church's assets, including the church's bank accounts, and that she has threatened to harm them if they do not give up their property.

The couple have asked the court for \$25,000 damages, claiming that Temple has stolen from them the church's assets.

Temple has asked the court for \$25,000 damages, claiming that the Madlocks have stolen from her the church's assets.

The Madlocks claim that Temple has stolen from them the church's assets, including the church's bank accounts, and that she has threatened to harm them if they do not give up their property.

They charged that Temple threatened them to kill them if they did not give up their property to the church, and that she has stolen from them the church's assets.

The Madlocks claim that Temple has stolen from them the church's assets, including the church's bank accounts, and that she has threatened to harm them if they do not give up their property.

They charged that Temple threatened them to kill them if they did not give up their property to the church, and that she has stolen from them the church's assets.

mic SY

UNCLASSIFIED

11/21/78  
(680)

PEOPLE'S TEMPLE

7 January '78 0572

With the exception of the attached telegram, SY/TAG has not received any cable traffic on the People's Temple. As the attached telegram shows, People's Temple is neither described nor referred to as a threat. Any information regarding the reported investigation by the U.S. Embassy of alleged abuses by the People's Temple in Guyana was not passed to the Office of Security.

According to the "Washington Post," Congressman Ryan had unsuccessfully attempted to interest the national media in the reportedly violent religious practices of the People's Temple, but the news of the group was limited to the West Coast. People's Temple leader Jim Jones reportedly took his group to Guyana to escape publicity which had been unfavorable to his group in California.

Neither the Threat Analysis Group nor Foreign Operations was informed of Congressman Ryan's trip.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/ME	
REVIEWED BY	DATE
EDS or IDS EXT. DATE	REASON(S)
TS AUTH.	
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DECLASSIFIED	<input type="checkbox"/> RELEASABLE
RELEASE DENIED	<input type="checkbox"/>
PA OF FOI EXEMPTIONS	

UNCLASSIFIED

rec'd HA

San Francisco, Calif. 94115

Frank A. Siaverts  
Deputy Secretary of State  
Washington, DC 20520

REVIEWED BY

DATE

RDS or XDS EXT. DATE

TS AUTH.

REASON(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS

DECLASSIFIED/RELEASABLE

RELEASE DATED

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

Dear Mr. Siaverts:

I thought it best to write directly to you to set a matter straight that has been of some concern, from what friends have told us. We have heard that Timothy Stoen is currently making some statements that I consider highly derogatory to the integrity of numerous public officials including yourself. In essence, he is boasting that he has your complete support in a custody case which is currently being settled in a Guyanese court. It appears that he considers you an easy mark and has said that your support is "assured".

Please know we don't automatically believe such tales. Tim Stoen has long been known to us to be a very devious person, and his estimation of other people's intelligence and integrity has, thankfully, consistently been proven wrong. Others, whom he has underestimated and tried to use, later saw right through what he was trying to do.

This is only the most recent of a long string of his tales, in any event. The child in question is not his at all; repeatedly, since the child was born, Tim Stoen has made known that the child is the natural son of Rev. Jones. But now he and his ex-wife, though estranged, have joined forces to attempt to pursue custody of the child they have never shown any interest in at all. On the contrary, they have used the whole matter as a means of applying ruthless pressure on Rev. Jones for seven years. The Stoens instigated his relationship with Grace, over Tim's plea to protect his reputation from embarrassment of threatened exposure of his transvestite patterns. Additionally, they threatened to attempt to destroy the church through lies, agency investigation of bogus charges, and manipulations of the press. In recent months we have, by the way, seen all these threats carried out.

Hundreds can testify that Jim Jones is not only the actual father but the only loving, consistent parent the child has known from his infancy. The natural mother's neglect and subsequent abandonment with a lover, taking the money Jim set aside for his child's future education is well-documented, as is Tim Stoen's complete disinterest, finally resigning in his leaving the child in Guyana with his natural dad. Grace ear signed for the child to live there. He is very happy there, but traumatized at the thought of being removed.

Stoen is a man who postures for convenience--his own convenience. He will bluster and make a great show of his influence. But we can prove to you how many, many supporters we have, both here in the U.S. and in other areas as well. We are convinced of your integrity, and will not allow what a man like him has said (an unscrupulous man whose past behavior points to a career as a provocateur) to allow us to be misled.

As with many groups considered too utopian in years past, we also

were being set up. However we learned much from perhaps putting too much emphasis on labels, and are now concentrating our energies on accomplishing as much as possible in the way of human service. We have an internationally acclaimed agricultural and medical program in Guyana, under the direction of Rev. Jones which is serving the needs of thousands. Obviously Jim Jones is a man of integrity for the Disciples of Christ to uphold him and his work. Rev. Jones would have absolutely no reason to stake his reputation on bringing the plight of his son to public attention if this were not the truth.

Respectfully,

Respectfully,  
Guy B. Young  
Rev. Guy B. Young  
Master of Divinity

[illegible]

# Congressional

SCS Custody Case

1082 (687)

P/s send copy of attached letter R  
to following

Senators

✓ Alan Cranston  
✓ Mark O. Hatfield  
✓ Thomas F. Eagleton  
✓ Lowell P. Weicken, Jr.  
✓ Richard Clark  
✓ Daniel K. Inouye  
✓ Birch Bayh  
✓ S. I. Hayakawa  
✓ Dennis DeConcini  
✓ Patrick J. Leahy  
✓ Frank Chuych  
✓ Clifford P. Case  
✓ Paul S. Sarbanes  
✓ Edward W. Brooke  
✓ Floyd K. Haskell  
✓ Jacob K. Javits  
✓ Tolen Glenn  
✓ Lloyd Bentsen  
✓ Richard S. Schweiker

✓ Congress  
Representatives

✓ Leo J. Ryan  
✓ Ronald V. Dellums  
✓ Phillip Burton

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/ME

REVIEWED BY Ort DATE 3/13/87

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TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
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RELEASE DENIED ☐  
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/ME

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ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☐

RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

✓ Don Edwards ✓  
✓ Robert Duncan ✓  
✓ John Burton ✓  
✓ Paul N. McCloskey, Jr. ✓  
✓ Timothy E. Wirth ✓  
✓ George Miller ✓  
✓ Clement J. Zablocki ✓  
✓ Don Bonker ✓  
✓ Norman Y. Mineta ✓  
Dw. Young

## JOHN VICTOR STOEN CASE

While we in the Department of State sympathize very much with Mr. and Mrs. Stoen in their efforts to regain custody of their son, regrettably there is little we can do to be of assistance. Neither the Department of State nor the courts of the State of California have the authority to enforce a U.S. court decision concerning the custody of John Victor as long as he is physically located outside of the United States. Child custody orders issued in the United States are normally not accepted for enforcement in another country on the basis of comity. While any American custody decision might be given evidentiary weight in the Guyanese proceeding, by no means will it be binding on that court.

Since the initiation of the custody suit in Georgetown last August, the Department of State and our Embassy in Guyana have been in close contact with the Stoens and their attorneys, both American and Guyanese. The Embassy has attended all court proceedings, when permitted to attend, and has assisted the Stoens in gaining access to Guyanese government officials. The Embassy has regularly had conversations with the opposing attorneys and has spoken with Mr. Jim Jones, the head of the People's Temple. As Mr. Jones is also an American citizen and entitled to the same rights and protection as Mr. and Mrs. Stoen, the Embassy has been careful to avoid prejudicing



the outcome of the dispute. It is the Embassy's responsibility to seek to ensure that the judicial outcome of the dispute results from a fair and impartial determination of the merits of the case, and all of our efforts are so directed.

Following a hearing held on January 10, Mr. Stoen's attorney stated that he anticipated a favorable decision at the conclusion of the proceedings. Mr. Stoen himself was guardedly optimistic in conversations with officers at the Department of State on January 27.

*Clearance: CM - Asst Sec. Barbara Watson*

ALLEGATIONS OF EMBASSY OR U.S.

INTERFERENCE

All the parties to the custody case of John Victor Stoen, currently in the courts in Guyana, are American citizens. The parents of the child are on one side and the People's Temple, a California religious organization which also operates in Guyana, on the other.

Our Ambassador and his staff in Guyana have taken an interest in the case, but have emphasized that the interest of the United States is confined to assuring that the matter is fairly and impartially adjudicated in the courts strictly on its merits and without outside interference from any quarter. Consistent with this position, the Embassy has avoided taking any sides in what is essentially a civil dispute between two groups of Americans. Nor has any pressure been brought by the Embassy on the Government of Guyana or its courts, which have yet to rule on the matter, in favor of one side or the other.

The inquiries made by the American Embassy on behalf of the child's parents were normal protective services which any American citizen abroad could expect to receive from his government. The inquiries were not attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of Guyana and, indeed, have not been interpreted as such.

Clearance: AEA - GLister

OK FH

689

Dear

As you have previously expressed concern in the John Victor Stoen custody case, I am pleased to forward this progress report.

On February 24, the American Consul in Georgetown, Guyana met with the new ~~Guyana~~ Minister of Justice, Mohamed Shahabudeen. ~~He was informed by~~ Minister Shahabudeen that child custody cases are civil disputes and therefore there is no legal requirement that hearings be scheduled within a specific time period. Further, the Minister indicated that a judge's written opinion may take four months to compose and release. Consequently, the delay to date in the Stoen case is not considered excessive under Guyanese legal procedures.

The Department shall continue to keep you informed of progress in this case. Should you require further information, please contact our Office of Special Consular

Services, telephone 632-3015.

Sincerely,

Douglas J. Bennet, Jr.

Assistant Secretary  
for Congressional Relations

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/ME	
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CX/SCS/EHO Kane/acer	

ext 29461

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DECLASSIFIED

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Bennet, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary  
For <sup>C</sup>ongressional Relations

CA/SCS/EHO' Kane/mr

ext 29461

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

Should you  
say something in the  
Minister's statement  
that he is determined  
to prevent any Exe.  
Branch (Engineers)  
interference in the  
Judicial process etc.?

Not yet. 10.

FH

DECLASSIFIED

STP  
EXC

OK

P/S. Clear attached draft  
for use in updating listed  
Congressman.

END -

CAUTION: Machine Readable Draft

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

03122001030

SLC custody case

1 of 2

690

INFORMATION SHEET NUMBER 1

JOHN VICTOR STOEN CASE

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Since the initiation of the custody suit in Georgetown, the Department of State and our Embassy in Guyana have been in close contact with the Stoens and their attorneys, both American and Guyanese. The Embassy has attended all court proceedings, when permitted to attend, and has assisted the Stoens in gaining access to Guyanese Government officials. The Embassy has regularly had conversations with the opposing attorneys and has spoken with Mr. Jim Jones, the head of the People's Temple. As Mr. Jones is also an American citizen and entitled to the same rights and protection as Mr. and Mrs. Stoen, the Embassy has been careful to avoid prejudicing the outcome of the dispute. It is the Embassy's responsibility to seek to ensure that the judicial outcome of the dispute results from a fair and impartial determination of the merits of the case, and all of our efforts are so directed.

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SCS custody case  
1-2

## INFORMATION SHEET NUMBER 2

691

ALLEGATIONS OF EMBASSY OR USG  
INTERFERENCE

All the parties to the custody case of John Victor Stoen, currently in the courts in Guyana, are American citizens. The parents of the child are on one side and the People's Temple, a California religious organization which also operates in Guyana, on the other.

Our Ambassador and his staff in Guyana have taken an interest in the case, but have emphasized that the interest of the United States is confined to assuring that the matter is fairly and impartially adjudicated in the courts strictly on its merits and without outside interference from any quarter. Consistent with this position, the Embassy has avoided taking any sides in what is essentially a civil dispute between two groups of Americans. Nor has any pressure been brought by the Embassy on the Government of Guyana or its courts, which have yet to rule on the matter, in favor of one side or the other.

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DECLASSIFIED



DECLASSIFIED

SCS custody case  
1062

INFORMATION SHEET NUMBER 3

(692)

PEOPLE'S TEMPLE IN GENERAL

As part of the traditional and internationally sanctioned protection services, officers of the American Embassy in Georgetown, Guyana, periodically visit the People's Agricultural Temple located at Jonestown, Guyana. These officers have been free to move about the grounds and speak privately to any individuals, including persons who were believed by their family and friends to be held there against their will. It is the opinion of these officers, reinforced by conversations with local officials who deal with the People's Temple, that it is improbable anyone is being held in bondage. In general, the people appear healthy, adequately fed and housed and satisfied with their lives on what is a large farm. Many do hard, physical labor but there is no evidence of persons being forced to work beyond their capacity or against their will.

Should you have a specific individual about whom you want information, please provide the name of the person and the person's date and place of birth to the Office of Special Consular Services, Department of State, Washington, D.C. 20520. During the next visit to the People's Temple by an officer of the American Embassy, that officer will attempt to speak privately with the individual in question, convey your concern and report to you.

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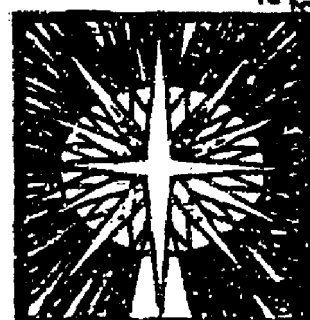
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P.1. Jim W. 10/3 SCS

RECEIVED

695



# PEOPLES TEMPLE

OF THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Jim Jones,  
Pastor

RECEIVED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_

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PA OF FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

For I am hungry  
and ye give me meat  
I am thirsty  
and ye give me drink  
I am a stranger  
and ye take me in  
Naked, and ye clothed me  
I was sick, and ye visited me  
I was in prison,  
and ye came unto me.  
Then shall the righteous  
Answer him, saying,  
When saw we thee an hungry  
And fed thee?  
Or thirsty,  
And gave thee drink?  
When saw we thee a stranger  
And took thee in?  
Or naked, and clothed thee?  
Or when saw we thee sick?  
Or in prison,  
And came unto thee?  
Verily I say unto you,  
Inasmuch as ye have done it  
Unto one of the least of these,  
Ye have done it unto me.

Matthew 25: 35-40

President Jimmy Carter  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing in urgent haste, on issues critical to the Peoples Temple Agricultural Project, "Jonestown," in Guyana, South America, founded by the Rev. Jim Jones and some 1500 vanguard members of his church. The Project recently gave a warm welcome to leading officials in our State Department, including American Ambassador Richard McCoy, who came to see the work firsthand and have been most helpful. Officials from the Guyanese government, the U.S. and all over the world come to the Project constantly, and have penned glowing entries into the guest book. The most recent visitor, Chairman of the Board of the Guyana Livestock Corporation and a world traveller, called it the best model community he's ever seen, purest in its fellowship and remarkable in productivity--no crime, excellent sanitation, superb medical care, educational and recreational facilities. As the enclosed information details for you, Jonestown is an exceptional community in every respect, cast into a setting of great natural beauty and peace.

Yet for the past year, we have been subject to disruption so persistent and extreme it would try the patience of Job: A Black mayor speaking in our church was subjected to electronic surveillance by members of the armed services, whose proof-positive identities and powerful origin we obtained. Our crates were broken into by U.S. Customs, who refused to explain why. Our Social Security checks for disabled and elderly members in Guyana were withheld, and we have documentation of how this purposeful obstruction came about. An Indian leader was threatened with blackmail if he refused to join those lying on Jim Jones, which he exposed to the press and made a sworn affidavit. The media was whipped into a frenzy against Peoples Temple by hostile "ex-members", which attack we later proved was coordinated by a man with a 75-page criminal record, and also connected with Interpol. The "ex-members" themselves have a long verified history of advocating terrorism and every kind of immoral, devious act. These are only highlights. Agencies and departments large and small, from D.A.s' offices to federal probes have been activated in mad-dog efforts to destroy us.

The instigator of this most recent wave of harassment is Timothy O. Stoen. He is trying to wrest Rev. Jones' six-year-old son, John, away from him through his own false claim to paternity, and has vowed publicly that he will stop at nothing to achieve that end. The custody matter is under the jurisdiction of the Guyanese courts, where his estranged wife, the child's mother, authorized the child to be taken, and where Stoen himself abandoned the child several months back. Yet Stoen has pressured numerous State Department officials to breach international protocol and intervene in the case on his behalf. He has been soliciting endorsements from members of Congress also, and has embarked on a massive campaign to discredit the entire Project. We are

Post Office Box 13023, San Francisco, Ca 94115 Telephone (415) 922-6418

ap; and to see a small child used as a pawn in these efforts, and the custody issue grotesquely manipulated to damage not only the individuals involved, but the Project, ours and Guyana's national policies, the integrity of members of Congress, and your own Administration's efforts to improve our relations in that area of the hemisphere.

We have already been pushed far enough, not to mention the unethical pressures exerted on those in official capacity. Now, as Tim Stoen threatened he would inquire, the IRS has notified us that they are looking into the church's fiscal affairs. This is the last straw. I believe you will understand through the course of this letter why we felt we were left no option but to bring our distress to the immediate attention of our President, members of Congress, and the State Department, and why it will be of concern to our nation's leaders.

Before we presume any further on your time, Mr. President, we wish to also state adamantly that we can prove all that is about to be said. We have documents, affidavits, letters, articles, every type of proof; and our members stand ready and willing to verify their personal testimonies with lie detector tests. Ours is not an appetite for vengeance, but for justice. We are sure to lodge no claims without proof; and our most urgent desire at this time is simply to be allowed to build in peace.

#### THE BACKGROUND OF THE CUSTODY CASE

Tim Stoen is not the father of John Victor, as his own attached affidavit reveals. He personally witnessed the child's abandonment by his natural mother, Grace Stoen, and the child's subsequent trauma, some two years back, when she ran off with another man and thousands of dollars Jim Jones had set aside for his son's future education. When she returned months later, and demanded to see John, she flung the child back into Jim's arms saying "Take him -- he's yours!", in the presence of numerous witnesses. Jim suffered days of physical symptoms so severe in the wake of that incident, many around him feared he could die of heart failure from the shock of witnessing such gross cruelty against his son; Tim Stoen also was fully aware of this. Yet even in recent months, after she had openly made her hostility known, Rev. Jones provided her with a round-trip airlines ticket to visit John at her convenience, in deference to her maternal interest, knowing her long history of threats to destroy the group as a whole. She cashed the ticket in for her own use.

Tim Stoen left John in Guyana in the Spring of '77, insisting to everyone there that the child should remain there with his natural dad, who had reared him from an early age. He was in no way there for the sake of John in any case, as this couple has portrayed, since they had both given their absolute word, as well as signed papers, and showed no personal interest in John whatsoever. Jim and Marceline Jones are devoted to John; he is deeply attached to them. He is happy and healthy where he is, which your Office should feel free to come and assess personally, but he is traumatized at the thought of Grace and Tim Stoen. Grace inflicted cruel and inhuman conditions on him, which he remembers vividly and can be asked about.

Tim Stoen was always very open about the true paternity of John, and adamant that he be reared by his dad, Jim Jones. Yet he and Grace Stoen are presently suing for joint custody of the child in a Guyanese court.

The Peoples Temple large and vocal membership, both here and in Guyana, are incensed and sickened by this turn of events, and determined that no conscientious effort shall be spared to keep this dearly-loved and excellently cared for child exactly where he is: with his father and his very loving mother figure in Marceline Jones. It was because of Tim Stoen's personal need that Rev. Jones consented to his request, which is described in Mr. Stoen's own affidavit (attached). It was not his proudest achievement by any means, but Jim is deeply devoted to his son John now that the child is here. Needless to say, of paramount importance now is simply the protection of the child, which is a moral issue with the many thousands of Peoples Temple members. They know the backgrounds of both Tim and Grace Stoen; and they see that it would be cruel, inhuman, intolerable for this happy, well-adjusted child to be removed.

Indeed, Jim Jones, although he has many thousands of loyal members in the United States, is unable to return at this time; as court orders have been issued here, although even on purely legal grounds the case is in Guyana since the child was abandoned in Guyana. Yet such are the connections of the Stoens, that no sooner had a leading columnist broken the news that John Victor is really Jim Jones' child, the Stoens WITHIN 24 HOURS had "remined" (Grace had been pursuing a divorce) and had been AWARDED "joint custody"! How the wheels of justice appear to turn for some.

Yet one of the most recent lies to reach our ears, direct from a Guyanese Inspector, was that Tim Stoen told him that John was not even living with Jim Jones in Guyana; that Jim was using this just as an "excuse"; that the custody of John was not the real reason Jim Jones wouldn't return to the United States. Two of our members, Mr. Beam and Ms. Wilkerson, can personally verify that these lies were being spread. The myth is John lives right in the Jones' house; his custody IS the real reason Jim Jones has not returned. Yet, the implication that there were other underlying reasons for Jim's decision to stay in Guyana was given to incite the present probe by the IRS!

### TIM STOEN

Mr. President, this would seem to make no rational sense; there are other undisclosed pressures being brought to bear on this situation. Tim Stoen wasn't just a passing member of Peoples Temple; he was its legal counsel, and prided himself on being a "model member" for ten years. As recently as August 23, 1977 (Utah Daily Journal article attached), he was quoted as saying, "I have always made known my esteem for Jim Jones." His sudden unaccountable 180° turn now, with no further contact with Jim Jones, Peoples Temple or its members, from the August 23rd statement to present, is absolutely suspect. Yet we do know that during that time he was threatened by certain individuals with prosecution which was already underway for some law he allegedly violated; since his sudden turn, that prosecution has been withheld.

Another fact is evident: Mr. and Mrs. Stoen are being paid by unethical means. Neither is employed yet they travel all over, stay at the most expensive hotels, and retain highly-paid attorneys. Tim Stoen hasn't worked in a whole year, yet somehow has resources to set up residence in Manhattan (he claims); plus law offices in San Francisco and Washington, D.C. He just told a local paper in this area that he and Grace are funded by working and "loans". He does not reveal the source of said "loans", if this is the case at all. It hardly seems likely, considering rent costs alone in cities thousands of miles apart.

It is a hard experience for us to see Mr. Stoen acting this way. Life has brought us many painful discoveries. We do not hesitate to say we came from a posture that was far more utopian than the one we now take. We have never made any requirement of anyone for their political leanings, much the same way we have always been willing to assist people in need regardless of their political or ideological belief. We were perhaps too accepting of where people were coming from, because obviously we were deceived. But we have always believed that human potential can be oriented for good, and have achieved remarkable results, as you can see from the enclosed materials. Where we have erred has been on the side of utopian idealism.

Now we have found our way: we believe in lighting candles rather than cursing the darkness. But our hardest lessons have come from ones like Tim Stoen, for whose recent complete turnaround we have only one possible explanation: the disruption he and other "ex-members" are causing was either "bought" or was intended all along.

Tim Stoen always claimed to be "further to the left than Huey Newton". But many things about him, such as his deviant personal patterns, we only learned of at a later time, through the direct testimony of his wife (see attached). We now also know of the graphic diagrams drawn up by Stoen himself, of how he intended to step over individuals to become President. Members have come forward who were

approached by Stoen, who have brought to light the horrendous recommendations he would make, such as suggesting that we do away with a troublesome reporter. This man was a conservative, who had publicly embarrassed Stoen, and Stoen had a personal grudge against him. Tim Stoen had stated in near hysteria that he could not stand to be so embarrassed and he had to "get the guy". At that time, Tim Stoen advocated the use of poison being administered to this man through the use of a poison dart and researched this methodology. This all came out later. The person who brought this to light will gladly take a lie detector test on the matter. We challenge Mr. Stoen to do the same.

Such ideas were invariably rejected, but unfortunately not thought meant to be taken seriously at the time (that was never our way), so not brought to the forefront of scrutiny. But now we have learned about other aspects of Mr. Stoen's background, detailed in the attached article on his trip to East Berlin, showing him to be stomachily against every political idea he tried to inculcate in us. We are not objecting to the stance made by Tim Stoen, but he told us he had never been to such a place. And when he came to us, he presented himself as of the left, not of the right. He was always pushing for violence. The puzzle can now be put together, and it seems clear that he was deceptive and provoking from the start. And strange though it must seem, been able to win support and friendship over the years from people of even very conservative orientation, as our foremost focus has consistently been human service, not political propagandizing of any type. We have found decent people in every camp - liberal, moderate, conservative - and in fact when we faced attacks, some of the most conservative people rose to our defense, asking what was really behind all this. It is the sheer unscrupulousness, the inhumanity, the destructive purposes - in someone of ANY political orientation - that appalls us in Tim Stoen.

It is horrendous to now see Trotskyites and their lies being dignified! Ironically, we had just succeeded in ridding our fellowship of the last of them, but they were obviously not content to just leave. Tim Stoen's disappointment on departure was that we were not violent enough! Life teaches us many difficult things.

#### CHALLENGE TO THE TERRORISTS

*We challenge Tim Stoen and other would-be detractors to take lie detector tests about their recommendations of violence which were intended to lead people astray! We challenge him to do this about diagrams he drew up to step over others to reach the Presidency! It is destructive ones like Stoen who have brought pain to us and who will ultimately - if they are allowed to continue with their present destructive activities - bring pain to our country.*

*Our people in turn will take lie detector tests or truth serum to prove who is right and who is wrong. Thousands upon thousands of people are willing to do this, to verify what we stand for in terms of peace, non-partisanship and non-violence. The 1500 people at the Project, not to mention the thousands in the U.S., who are devoted along with Rev. Jones to a path of peace and human service, would be spent beyond measure if ruthless individuals who tried to detour us on a violent course in previous days were to now harm the brightest hope of our lives.*

The vast majority of our members come from deprived circumstances and the bitterness of inner city life; and countless young people who have been rehabilitated from lives of crime, violence, and militant views have found in Peoples Temple for the first time an accommodation to the system and a desire to work through it for change. Encouraging constructive direction out of their disillusionment in life has not always been easy. Tim Stoen and these others would have made our people the "pawns" of their terrorist schemes, but their orientation was simply unacceptable to us. They were always wanting to do grandiose things, to tear things down rather than work for constructive development and peaceful social change. We would never go along with them, even when we were less aware. Now they seem bent on provoking a continuing "war" - one we absolutely do not want.

Others have approached us too, Mr. President, even since Tim Stoen left, "underground" groups

from all areas of the world. They claimed they would help us if only we would give the United States a bad name in the Third World by claiming bad treatment of Blacks. We have consistently and resolutely refused such approaches, Mr. President, and shall continue to do so. This is entirely contrary to our purposes.

Indeed, we welcome you to verify every aspect of our relating to the Guyanese and all the many Third World visitors we have had through the Project on that point. Countless witnesses over our amateur ham radio network, can verify that we have been called "sell out socialists" because we have adamantly taken our stand to build relations rather than destroy them, and remain pacifist throughout. And we are afraid of no one in this regard: we are simply determined to do what is right. We openly praise the United States here. We had gone through harassments and persecutions in the U.S., so intense that at times death had seemed preferable—bombs planted, assassination attempts, arson, children harassed, animals mutilated—yet not once have we mentioned it to the Guyanese. We praise the U.S. in thousands of ham radio contacts and shall continue to do so. You can check the sincerity of our Pastor's voice over the waves. Our course is certain; it is peaceful; we affirm our good intentions by honest, constructive work every single day.

We have confidence in our country, for you in government to stand by Americans who are a credit to the nation. And if indeed our trusts and expectations were to be shattered, if our Pastor had misjudged the fairness of the U.S., then we could readily stand with the earlier patriot, Patrick Henry, and say, "Give us liberty or give us death." We've come through too much not to stand! Our children have a future; our young people have happy, constructive lives; our seniors will spend their last years in peace. Whatever lies have been told, Mr. President, there would be no justice in hurting us. All we want is for these unprovoked provocations and harassments and persecutions to cease, and for you and our government to aid in stopping these destructive elements from bringing pain to us all—the U.S., Guyana, defenceless children, or anything else that appears to be getting in their way.

### CONSPIRACY

For this is hardly just a couple of individuals involved in these attempts, nor are their efforts solely directed at us. We have mountains of evidence to prove that this is a conspiracy: planned, coordinated, orchestrated and designed to implicate the media, governmental agencies, and numerous individuals who have had no involvement with Peoples Temple at all, but are simply designated to destroy it. Nor has it been confined to just hurting us. You can easily see the damage that would be wrought on the credibility of members of Congress who have been enlisted to support Mr. Stoen's "petting claim"; the compromise intended of the State Department, were they to intervene. Tim Stoen has also admitted lying to Guyanese officials, and stated he would hurt U.S. - Guyana relations. He has just broadcast in the press the ludicrous lie that Jim Jones has the Guyanese government "right" "much in his hands" — the reason offered being that he, Tim Stoen, was not seated at a public audience with the Deputy Prime Minister of Guyana. No one, not Jim Jones, no one has the right to barge into Dr. Reid's office and demand to be seen! It is the equivalent of demanding an instant audience with Vice President Mondale here in the United States. It's insulting to the Guyanese. It's the "Ugly American" all over again. Yet plays like this are being manipulated to turn public and governmental sentiment against Jim Jones and Guyana simultaneously. The damage intended, Mr. President, is widespread and reckless, violating legal, Constitutional, human rights, and international protocol.

When we discovered proof-positive evidence that the media had been responsible for planning and orchestrating the attacks against Peoples Temple, we found that this "bad press" was also circulated internally. Rev. Dr. Jones was said to have instigated a certain riot in Guyana, years ago. check Rev. Jones' passport—he wasn't even there!! We have proof that money are being given to Tim Stoen



and numerous others - even the most radical elements in Guyana - to harass us. Officers have even been made to harass us through means other than the legal system.

Therefore, we shall present to you, members of Congress and the State Department, an outline of the personalities, tactics, and methods involved in the conspiracy against Peoples Temple. We have nothing to hide, and everything to gain by the exposure. Our people are at the end of their rope with tolerance. We never asked for "international incidents" as have been whipped up in the custody case; and we implore governmental assistance to put a halt to terrorists and blackmailers, liars, thieves and paid agents who are out to destroy people whose accomplishments we feel confident you will want to protect and promote. Mr. President, when you have the full range of facts.

### ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE

When a Black Mayor came to speak at the Temple a year back, we discovered two men spying outside the building with electronic devices. They fled when approached by one of our members, but she got their license number. Their identity was traced through their rented car to proof-positive identification of two electronics communications experts in the employ of the armed forces. A public relations firm was hired for a year and a half to manipulate the press to malign us. Much has come out of the fact that we made our protest of the surveillance known to several Congressmen and that we have absolutely documented evidence in the matter! Several sympathetic persons in government, and our law enforcement officials aided us in this protest. We wrote directly to the powerful legislator, from many states away, thousands of miles away, under whose jurisdiction these men fell, and got no more than the cover-up that he would never check on what these men do on their own time, off hours, or weekends! No one travels thousands of miles away on a specific, verified spying mission on their off hours! We feel it is our duty to bring this to your attention, and let you know how it relates to our situation.

### BLACKMAIL ATTEMPT

Just a few months after that-but just prior to when Tim Stoen left Guyana, and subsequently "quit" the church-an Indian leader was approached by one Standard Oil employee, claiming to be working with agents from the Treasury Department, and also with several "ex-members", specifically giving the name of Grace Stoen. He said if the leader would only join those trying to discredit Jim Jones, he would be rewarded by having his legal difficulties resolved, which in his case is a life-and-death matter. He was also told that if he did not cooperate, it would go badly for him.

This courageous Native American refused the blackmail and bribery attempt, and later exposed the man publicly who had approached him. His sworn affidavit specifically implicates Grace Stoen. In fact, the man who made this attempt told him outright that John Victor is the son of Jim Jones! It is obvious that the people working in the conspiracy all know this. At that time, it was not publicized, the Indian leader never even suspecting, yet this was thrown up to him as "proof" that Jim Jones would be discredited, which in turn would reflect badly on the leader's legal troubles, his having been associated with Jim Jones by accepting money from our church to meet a family crisis. (The entire amount was later repaid.) Of course later, when Tim Stoen was "secured" for the conspiracy, this all changed.

It was also revealed later, in the local press, that the man who made the blackmail attempt is a long-time close friend of the "ex-members" Mertles (aka Jeanne and Al Mills), who had been investigating the Peoples Temple for seven years, dating from when the Mertles first became members, as he himself admitted!

### MEDIA ATTACKS

It was no surprise, then, to see Elmer and Deanna Mertle, Grace Stoen and the man she ran off with, plus several individuals known to openly promote terrorist activities, all appearing together as "indignant ex-members of Peoples Temple" with a "corroborated story" in the wave of media attacks in the summer of 1977. Their lies were subsequently picked up and dignified in the major dailies here,



with no proof of their statements, no statement of the Temple included, a host of faceless accusers, innuendoes, and lurid scenarios we could not even begin to recognize. The original magazine to run the story praised the following "ex-members" for having the "courage to step forth": Grace Stoen who, as well as her husband Tim, had stolen money from the church, not to mention John's college trust fund; the Mertles, who from every indication joined the Temple in the first place with the express intent of "doing us in", who also stole money from the church; numerous young people who had tried to advocate a course of violence.

It takes no researcher to see where the truth lies, only common sense. In fact, every group will have liars. That this group has so few, when there is so much inducement—money, publicity—can give every thinking person reason to stand back and take notice. People must be receiving far more that they really value, than even a high finance conspiracy can provide for them.

### CRIMINALS AT THE HELM

Last fall, a story broke in the local press which shed a good deal of light on these media attacks. Joseph A. Mazor, a man with a 75-page criminal record for various bogan checks and fraud charges in several states, was discovered to be the coordinator of the attacks. Somehow Mr. Mazor managed to obtain a state investigator's license after being released from prison in 1976. Yet a confidential 16-page report of the California Adult Authority on this individual, written in 1970 states of Mazor: "He is a smooth 'con man' with an insatiable desire to get ahead. He is bright, well-educated, and so well-versed in the law that he had five attorneys in the Pomona area convinced that he had a law degree. It is felt that the subject is a menace to the community."

Mazor admits to being employed to investigate Peoples Temple from November 1976 on, but refuses to say who pays him. He also says he is currently employed by "several ex-members, including Elmer and Deanna Mertle." His function is not only to investigate, this paper learned, but he has also been responsible for coordinating the press campaign through the use of one of the largest, most expensive public relations firms in San Francisco: Lowry, Russom and Leeper. An executive from the firm confirmed working with Mazor "on the Peoples Temple project, showing him how to handle the media." Other sources from the firm stated that the executive was specifically sending out letters to selected journalists, offering them—through Mazor—"exclusive material of an incriminating nature against Peoples Temple." The campaign is known to have resulted in at least one article in a major news daily charging fraud, complete with a lawsuit!

We know that these conspirators decided on using the media to try and convict the Temple only when legal legitimate channels were determined to be ineffective, due to lack of evidence! It is equally remarkable that people bringing these kinds of "suits"—like the Mertles, and the Williams—knowing we are honest and law-abiding people, threw up threats of this kind of suit to us earlier: they vowed to trump this up for PR purposes!

Now we see this also coordinated with other false accusations brought to IRS to whip up an investigation against Peoples Temple. **THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT TIM STOEN THREATENED HE WOULD HAVE DONE.**

Our government is being used, Mr. President. We have never believed or said that this is a conspiracy of people in politics, but rather that agencies in government are being used. We have no option but to appeal to your Office to put a stop to this. When criminals are calling the shots against some 1,500 citizens who are steadily at work to build good-will between nations, this is horrendous and intolerable.

Ask the IRS to have them produce their lying witnesses! They have simply filed the harassment suits for publicity value which Stoen bragged he would have done!

We ourselves took the initiative of checking with IRS, under the Freedom of Information Act, when we learned of Stoen's threats. We asked if they had issue with us, which of course they did not—we have always been very careful, and meticulously honest. Now we have suddenly received a notice of investigation. We can provide further convincing documentation on the use of agencies,

we also know of, aside from Joseph Mazor's long criminal record, his connection with Interpol. And indeed, some of the attacks coordinated internationally look remarkably similar to what we have seen here in San Francisco. Even with no further documentation at all, the parallels would be blatant.

### U.S. CUSTOMS SEIZES TEMPLE CARGO

In August, 1977, seven agents of the U.S. Customs Dept. broke into crates of supplies being shipped by the Temple to our Agricultural Mission in Guyana, South America. The Customs agents refused to give any explanation or probable cause for this sudden search and interruption of our shipment. When our attorney, Charles Garry, demanded an explanation of the U.S. Customs Dept., they replied they were "exempt from disclosure" and refused to give any answer.

The freight forwarders in the city where this occurred also stated that these were not local Customs agents—they were definitely from another part of the country.

Only later we learned that the real reason the crates were broken open was that lies had been fed to some people in Guyana from Interpol; one lie had to do with guns, the other with drugs. Even when we were not as moderate as we are now, Mr. President, they knew we were opposed to those things in all forms. See for yourself the many pages of commendations accorded our group for extensive drug rehabilitation and for model cooperation with law enforcement agencies over many, many years.

Again, we reiterate our contention that our government is being used. We never blamed the Customs Dept. for instigating this, nor do we object to having every large box gone through; that should be proof of our integrity.

### SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS WITHHELD

Moreover, we were disinclined to raise any kind of issue over the extreme distress of having our senior and disabled members in Guyana cut off from their Social Security—for months! We had the evidence right in our hands—a Postal Service memo instructing this be done. One prominent Black journalist printed in his paper that what rightfully belonged to people was being held back; this was only one of many papers friendly to us, but we did not press this to any open forum. We quietly and appropriately protested, through letters, telegrams, and our Congressional representative, and the situation was duly remedied.

**YET THIS CONTINUES. EVERY DEPARTMENT, BIG AND SMALL, HAS COME DOWN ON US. MANY TIMES THEY APOLOGIZED AFTER WE WERE CLEARED OF ALL THE ALLEGATIONS, IN FACT SOME APOLOGIZED FOR HAVING TO DO IT AT ALL.**

### WHY HAS THE PEOPLES TEMPLE BEEN ATTACKED AT ALL?

We feel frank words of explanation are in order. We are not, and never have been guilty of the horrendous accusations launched against us. But we are fully aware of the vulnerability of our position over the years. We were always controversial but highly principled. We knew that with the decision to stand for often unpopular causes, came the enormous responsibility of being honest, of being hard-working, humanitarians and good. We were always concerned that our children didn't cut classes and were high achievers (as a local High School principal would be glad to affirm); we've absolutely not tolerated drugs or violence; we've gone the extra mile again and again to prove that at heart we are, and always were humanitarians. Jim Jones saw massive urban deterioration and decay, violence, drugs, and crime with no easy solutions. We felt in great need of concepts around which people could rally and unify. But we never found any substitute for massive practical reforms of thousands of individual lives—meeting specific needs, recognizing and fostering individual talents, providing a community where people could live productive and fulfilling lives. We've worked at being humanitarian. Mr. President—as an organization, as individuals, as our highest priority. We've been written into the Congressional Record twice, and our Pastor honored as one of the 100 most outstanding clergymen in America by Religion in American Life. The facts speak for

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U.S. and Guyana, our only purpose now. Our is an exemplary American project which the Guyanese government wants and supports. This is no "remote jungle outpost", but rather a heavily-criticized model community, through which the Guyanese government brings visiting foreign dignitaries with distinct pride.

We are a people with much faith in you and in our government, a fact we make widely known. But we also need to make known to you and all our nation's leaders, that it is a faith that was not easily won, and the strain we have to endure in seeing it jeopardized is great. Singlehandedly, the Peoples Temple under the guidance of Jim Jones, has taken hundreds of disaffected youth off the streets—drug addicts, criminal types, the hard-core unemployed—and made clean, decent, productive lives possible for them. The Project itself was begun as an alternative lifestyle for those who couldn't "make it", to give the disadvantaged a new start—with no government funding or grants, only grass-roots efforts, with a lot of good American know-how and technology—pioneers in a new world. And it is good we did find this solution, because now the "moderates" of our group, some 20,000 of them, dispersed throughout the United States, are working for peace, whereas 1500 who might not have been able to are now doing very well in this accepting, nurturing environment, instead of draining literally millions of the taxpayer's money to support them. No SSI, no Medi-Cal, no Medicare (we have our own insurance), no welfare goes out to any of those who benefit from our overseas program. Nor do the U.S. taxpayers have to compensate for the crime, destruction of property, and institutionalization of many of these young dissidents. From what we have seen in the cultural transition, from what the youth now in Guyana have told us they were involved in or would have gotten forced into in their home environments, unold millions have been saved. Here the youth do not feel the contrast reflected on T.V. which they, faced with unemployment and no opportunity to learn the work ethic, whether black or white, see as unobtainable. Their feelings about the U.S. have changed now that they have the opportunity to be out in nature in an ideal climate, moderated by trade winds, where there is abundant wild life, fishing, swimming, soccer, basketball courts and teams and all kinds of musical opportunities in singing and dancing. With a constructive life to lead, alienation has been overcome.

Of course, we've always been interested in specifically Black concerns as well, with a large interracial congregation, and the completely interracial character of Guyana itself has fostered a good reorientation of self-image for so many there. Our young people in Jonestown, even those who previously had some of the worst anti-social patterns, now report being happier and more productive than they ever dreamed possible. Now the Project has burgeoned out into a remarkable cooperative, where poverty and chronic ill-health, stunts and unemployment—all the earmarks of urban deterioration—are fading memories for people who were largely veterans of the inner cities here.

How wrong it would be for America to allow this dream-come-true to be destroyed! Where would these people go, what would they do if their faith, now remarkably restored, were again to be dashed to the ground? People who cannot make adjustments to the grueling conditions of city life have the right to launch out and be pioneers in a new world—and beyond any doubt, in the credit of America! This could be a model for other troubled and alienated people. Every person on the Project plus the many, many visitors who have been through it, will attest to what is happening there. We could provide hundreds, thousands of letters. You yourself, Mr. President, or any member of Congress, are welcome to go through the Project personally. We would be glad to be scrutinized. We had not solicited the press when we were under attack; we had been warned by people of every orientation—liberal, moderate, conservative—not to trust the press. But now, we even expect a delegation of major news media to be coming through, and we look forward to introducing them to this beautiful way of life—the peaceful path of humanitarian service which is what, at the heart of it, we always wanted to achieve. For we have been able to bring great benefits to this whole area—food, medical assistance, and even training in all kinds of academic subjects. We are teaching the mathematics of crop difficulties, what an acre can produce and what it will cost, how to use chemistry to break down the soil, physics, biology. Many of our young people once left to wander the streets, are now becoming avid agronomists.

Now we want to, and are able to compensate for the times we did not know our way. We have gone through a great transition. We appreciate the U.S. much better from abroad—one can see its great strengths. We have found, in the peace and happiness of Jonestown, the honest work, the decent human relations and shared concerns, the capacity to use democratic participatory government to build entire industries (we have several in the making), that there is no "label" on human dignity and the wealth of human potential that can be motivated for good. We will always be humanitarian pacifists, working within society. Rev. Jones has been at the Project for nine months now, and does not envy those of you who are in the realm of politics; you have such a tremendous responsibility to bear! And we have the good and wholesome feeling there that we have had great success in saving and transforming lost lives; that people who felt they could not participate before or make a difference now have the pride of being a credit to their country! It means more than any of us can say, and the thought of its being destroyed is too devastating to contemplate.

We are at work building ties that can be depended on for the United States, which anyone can bear out. We have broadcasters twice a week in Georgetown, where we praise the United States. In just the last few weeks, we have made well over 2,000 contacts through our ham radio system operating in Guyana, promoting goodwill and understanding to many wonderful Americans in every part of the country, as well as other areas of the world. All kinds of medical consultations have taken place (see attached flyer with news articles) between our doctor and medical staff in Jonestown and doctors in the U.S. via amateur radio. The lives of several people brought to us from neighboring communities have been saved. We have also discovered a marked understanding—almost universally so—of the need for non-intervention, mutual co-existence, and aid to our neighbors to the South, which has been most encouraging; and we are proud to strengthen the efforts of your own Administration towards this area of the world, and facilitate them. Rev. Jim Jones has personally spearheaded this new project, with great energy and persistence. He and the people on the Project have been gratified to find that a humanitarian role is genuinely appreciated in this world where there is a great need to transcend national, political, racial and religious barriers, which can sometimes obfuscate the greater goals of meeting massive, practical needs and promoting peace.

#### OUR APPEAL TO OUR GOVERNMENT

In recent weeks, Tim Stoen has embarked on a pilgrimage through the Congressional offices of Washington, enlisting support on the custody case based on fallacious claims of paternity, and lies about our leader and the Project. Several members of Congress—many of them good, conscientious men we don't doubt—have been persuaded to sign a recommendation for Mr. Stoen, advocating his interest. We doubt they would have ever signed their name to such a document if they had been aware of the facts. And we entreat every one of these individuals to renege the "endorsement" that was unscrupulously gleaned from them at the risk of compromising themselves, for now they have reason to know that neither their own interests, their country's, nor the interests of impartial justice will be served by their name being lent to such ill-motivated efforts. In fact, we urge that, and all our other Congresspersons, to support non-intervention in Guyanese affairs—the stated policy of the U.S. State Department.

As for the IRS, perhaps they thought of Peoples Temple as some kind of threat. But you can see for yourself their motives, and determine where the truth lies. Please—in the name of decency—ask this agency to change its course! All that has been done is to get people to believe in society and that will be undone if this continues. Our people had been so alienated. All they can see in this is a set-up, a "classic scenario": first muddle our name, then try and force one minority leader to sell another out, whip up attacks in the press, and then, by the time you reach "the classic ending", the frame-ups, the "kill", no one even cares. And they think that the press has already done its job, so on-one will care about the frame-ups. It is up to responsible aware government to prove differently, and we are looking to the integrity we have seen in you to bear this out. For our own part, we stand prepared to back up all our contentions under any objective and fair scrutiny.

We are tired of this mindless and groundless harassment! Jim Jones has done all he can do—he has

remarkably restored the faith of people who were absolutely broken, many of whom would have been bent on destruction. He has rid our movement thoroughly of terrorist elements who, because they could not use us as a front-line to tear up this nation have now turned around to destroy us. He assures our people constantly, this is NOT our government doing this. He has said himself that he felt there was a wave of change, that agencies such as IRS were no longer used to harass groups or individuals in spite of Jack Anderson's recent column to the contrary. He continues to believe that this is NOT a conspiracy of persons in politics, but of people instigating action by political agencies. He reiterates again and again on thousands of radio contacts the great strides being made by your Administration, loyally upholding you in the highest fashion.

We could go on and on. We have spent no money except to build—a program which is the most significant kind of grassroots like between two people. Tim Stoen has spent thousands and solely to tear down—our work, Guyanese-American relations, hope for little children. We are peace-loving people, made so by decent, productive work and the enormous inspiration of our humanitarian leader. Now they would even threaten his health—he cannot endure much more of this, it is too much ~~as~~ to bear alone. He feels too deeply for the safety and security of everyone; and it could literally kill him to see his child dragged away to be “raised” by terrorists and sadists; or to see his people thrown back into the common-productive and destructive modes of life it took years to rehabilitate them from. Where in heaven's name would this organization be without the constant moderation and direction of Jim Jones? Yet many believe by this point that this is exactly what Tim Stoen and the others are out to do—destroy and kill the person who has given many the only hope they have ever known! We need to keep our people's faith alive and the program going. These threats, harassment—when we are doing so much good—are getting to be more than they can endure.

We implore you to investigate these sources yourself and determine the conspiracy behind it. Investigate the Project. We are a credit to both America and Guyana. We are in a unique position to cement relations between two peoples, and we are good and positive towards that end. We are a practical model and can make THE significant difference.

The impending IRS investigation, deliberately provoked by false charges and lies as Tim Stoen had threatened, will totally alienate our membership. How much can people be expected to take?

**WE URGENTLY REQUEST YOUR HELP.**

Thank you, Mr. President, for your patience and your time. We feel confident that these concerns are being delivered into the most competent hands.

Respectfully yours,

*L. F. Johnston*  
L. F. Johnston

cc: All Members of Congress  
Members of the U.S. State Dept.



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# THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA-NEVADA • DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Regarding Reverend Jim V. Jones  
Pastor of People's Temple Christian Church

I consider it a privilege to be acquainted with, and to have the opportunity of working with, Reverend Jim Jones, the Pastor of the People's Temple Christian Church. As the President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Northern California-Nevada it has been my happy experience to work with Mr. Jones in a number of different ways. I've always been impressed by his integrity, his courage, and the very selfless way in which he commits himself and his congregation to serve people in need.

Pastor Jones has a great organizational ability. He has been largely responsible for the establishment of a large congregation of everyday human beings from all walks of life binding them together in a truly extraordinary commitment to human service. The ministries of this pastor and his congregation are staggering in scope and effectiveness. They include a very excellent drug rehabilitation program, a 40-acre ranch for mentally retarded boys, senior citizen's homes which have been cited for excellent care, emergency food and housing relief in three local communities, college scholarships for young people, and free legal counsel for the poor. These programs result in a very close knit group of people who really do carry out the admonition of Jesus as found in Matthew 25. You will remember the words there -- feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and minister to the sick and the imprisoned.

Pastor Jones is really committed to the very basic Judeo-Christian tradition which believes that the highest worship to God is our service to fellowman. He not only believes this; he lives this admonition.

The People's Temple Christian Church is a joyous congregation of human beings. Their meetings are serious in purpose and yet children and old people enjoy real places of honor. I, for one, covet for all churches the vitality and the spirit of this group of people.

There is an additional aspect to this extraordinary ministry which is just now getting underway through an extensive agricultural mission in South America. Thirty different crops have been planted there to help alleviate hunger in that part of the world.

I am aware that many other people have written to express appreciation and support for the practical and genuine Christianity practiced by Pastor Jones.

In summary, let me say, that Jim Jones is a very compassionate and dedicated human being. I am grateful that our paths have crossed and that we share together in the ministry of Jesus Christ. It is a pleasure and a privilege to write this letter of commendation and reference.

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

KEY: DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☐

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REGIONAL OFFICE • 11-A CALIFORNIA

Very sincerely yours,

*Karl Irwin*

Karl Irwin, Jr.  
Regional Minister-President

REGIONAL OFFICE • 11-A CALIFORNIA • OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94611 • (415) 839-3550



P.T. Gen. info  
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MERVYN M. DYALLY  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**State of California**  
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
STATE CAPITOL  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95834

(916) 445-8833

I am the first, and probably, the only elected public official to visit the Agricultural Mission of People's Temple in the Republic of Guyana, South America.

I was amazed by what I saw: Here, in the heart of the jungle, were people of all races and ages working together to build a better life for themselves. They were building for every conceivable need - homes, schools, farms, roads, machinery - to name a few.

I came away deeply moved and greatly inspired by my visit. It was an experience that I shall never forget.

*Mervyn M. Dyal*  
MERVYN M. DYALLY

WMD:bjr

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/NR

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# PEOPLES TEMPLE

OF THE  
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Jim Jones,  
Pastor

*"For I was as hungry  
and as cold as a stone  
I was thirsty  
and you gave me drink  
I was a stranger  
and you took me in  
Naked, and you clothed me  
I was sick and you visited me  
I was in prison  
and you came unto me.  
Then shall the righteous  
Answer him, saying,  
When saw we thee as hungry  
And fed thee?  
Or thirsty  
And gave thee drink?  
When saw we thee as a stranger  
And took thee in?  
Or naked, and clothed thee  
Or when saw we thee sick?  
Or in prison  
And came unto thee?  
Verily I say unto you,  
Inasmuch as ye have done it  
unto one of the least of these,  
ye have done it unto me"*

Matthew 25: 37-40

Dear Friend,

In the past several months, Peoples Temple and Bishop Jim Jones have been the target of a concerted, well-coordinated effort to discredit and destroy the effectiveness and reputation of our organization. The enclosed material will detail what kind of activity is behind the barrage of negative publicity which is full of distortions and outrageous lies. The sources of these 'allegations' are racists, law violators and common terrorists who were upset with the church when we did not follow their advocated course of violence. We are certain that these people are being paid for their scurrilous actions in recent months.

We have anticipated for some time that anti-progressive forces would attempt to use whatever means they could to paralyze the dynamic ministry of social and economic equality that Jim Jones has led for some twenty-five years. We also believe that the current campaign to discredit us is just the latest episode in a kind of neo-McCarthyism that has been resurgent of late in various quarters, and which has targeted black elected officials, progressive causes, and experimental communities in the United States. We know that just recently Rep. Clay of Missouri was exonerated of a series of totally baseless charges leveled at him by a hostile press, as was Lt. Governor Dymally of California (who has been strongly supportive of Bishop Jim Jones and the Peoples Temple). A book recently put together by Mary Warner of the Lt. Governor's office very aptly cites numerous examples of this type of planned harassment that black and minority elected officials in the United States have been subjected to.

On a national level, the same thing is being done to Andrew Young, United States Ambassador to the United Nations. One wonders if he will be able to maintain his position with the type of unwarranted criticism that he is getting, even from members of the black community. This singling out of an official who may be categorized as having a progressive viewpoint is not uncommon. We witnessed it with the sensationalistic, slanted press that both Martin Luther King and John F. Kennedy received, even years after their deaths.

Three who are a part of a conspiracy against Peoples Temple have reached Guyana. Obviously an attempt to discredit the church and pastor in the eyes of the public, their efforts have had little effect, using the same old trash, lies and smears—a whole library of it. People in the States know and esteem the character and commitment of Bishop

698

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/KR

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EX-101

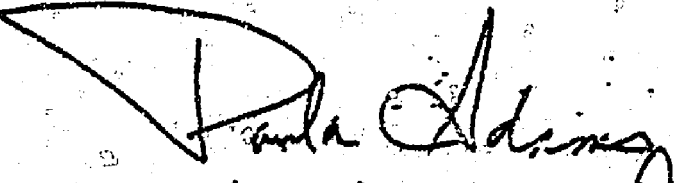
Jones. They are not fooled by the reactionary, anti-Socialist smear campaign. On the contrary, we have the total support of Dr. Carlton Goodlett, and numerous other prominent Socialist leaders throughout the States and the world. We have likewise had no criticism from within any minority community in the United States.

We have had all kinds of church and government officials visit us from both here and the United States. We will be having an open house in the near future. If you are unable to make it to the open house, we will gladly receive you any time. We have a community in which we are more positive than ever. Contrary to malicious allegations, we don't have to have corporal punishment of any kind and never have had. It is fantastic: no anti-social behavior exhibited of any kind and the highest level of medical care you can find any place in the world. The food is tremendous and many new innovative crops are being planted and successfully grown. This type of food production is helping the whole community, and this pleases us very much.

We build most of our houses now out of prefabricated material with the help of our sawmill. Our skilled craftsmen design and build our furniture and cabinets. The school at the Jonestown project is a healthy combination of work/study programs designed to let the youngsters progress at their own rate of speed, with individualized attention readily available. Our program includes an emphasis on Guyanese history and culture. The youth are also trained in a number of technical skills by competent tradesmen. At Jonestown, we make all kinds of other things that will have great utility for Guyana.

Numbers of our families have adopted Guyanese youngsters into their homes. We have integrated into the community and all community activities here, helping with school and recreational facilities. We are bringing Guyanese into this community and have a friendly, cooperative relationship with our neighbors in the area.

We wish to thank the government and people of Guyana. We could never have progressed so far so fast were it not for the total cooperation given every step of the way. We look forward to a relationship of friendship and mutual support between our mission settlers and Guyanese from every walk of life. We can only express our appreciation by trying to make our experiences useful for others engaged in similar efforts to expand and improve cultivation and development of the rich interior of Guyana Guyana, with the goal of benefiting her people. —

  
Paula Adams  
Administrative Secretary

(699)

Congressman

- Dante P. Facell letter of  
June 16, 1978 enclosing~~letter by Thannet of July 2, 78~~

a 48 page communication  
from the "Concerned Relatives",  
a group of individuals having  
relatives who lived at Jonestown,  
Guyana.

The Department replied to the  
Congressman on July 7, 1978  
indicating that ~~the~~ ~~that~~ ~~the~~  
~~information~~ ~~was~~ based on  
the actions of Embassy officers  
and conversations with local  
officials. "it was improbable  
anyone is being held in bondage"  
the people appear healthy,  
adequately fed and housed. (and)  
there is no of persons being  
forced to work against their  
will." We also asked that  
bureaus provide the necessary  
the interested individuals. (Contributions from  
personal identifying data and  
the ~~that~~ an Embassy officer  
would attempt to speak privately  
with person in question. ~~and~~  
We would then reply to the  
interested party.

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were more ~~important~~ after  
than the Timothy Oliver  
been letter of May 17, 1978 to  
Secretary Vance

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703

Con Lyon - committed to go  
that he owes it people  
& other congressmen in the  
S.F. Bay area

J.S. says has feeling the  
young man is being taken  
in by groups like the  
Rev. Moon & Jim Jones

- Ryan has letters from other  
congressmen & individuals  
in Jonestown

U.S. did to 8 years

\$ 21,000,000 - 1978-79

\$ 9,000,000 -

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704

- night (except 1 or 2 days)
- guards report show workers get beatings by others
- Special group for loggards
- learning crew
- Relationship - Conts - where you get permission to have contact with opposite sex
- Lays

Guards are members of church

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TS-2000 (Rev. 1-1-60)	
EXT-100 (Rev. 1-1-60)	
REMARKS _____	

105

# Meeting

## Participants:

1. Cong. Ryan's Office -  
Jackie Heiser

2. House International Relations Committee  
Jim Leakehart

3. CH/ Richard Belt  
Fred Henke  
John Griffith  
Terry Fortune  
Rudy Henderson  
Helen Law  
Eileen O'Hara  
Richard Belt  
Paul Donohue

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Leo Ryan

Joe ~~to~~ Holsinger

Nov. 14 - 18

18 family members to accompany  
NBC affiliate, SF Examiner - ~~provide~~  
one ex-reporter & photographer, & possibly  
other reporters

Jackie Spier

225-3531

1. Family group will be separate  
for Ryan group

Derewinski will not go

Thursday - 10:00 9:15

Practice - Basic things  
what ~~later~~ can and cannot do

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Tim Reiterman - Examiner

Cong Ryan  
 Jackie Speier  
 Mrs Steven Kotzaris  
 Mrs Grace Stran  
 Mrs Debbie Blaney

Mark Gersh  
225 4905

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Emb. not to be mentioned  
as intervenor

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~~and services - will accept~~

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Rudy Henderson 2214

no any fortune ~~UARA~~

11<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>

23-82 -

\* 23210 Griffith sub-offices  
10<sup>th</sup>

\* 9<sup>th</sup> Change meeting

Jackie ~~Spence~~  
Conv. ~~Ryan~~  
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and

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By FOSTER WILLIAMS STEWART

James had should share his recovery in a competitive manner with other Negroes as he was known among the Jews. "The Negro should rise and struggle in the name of Jesus, breaking his shackles," Rev. James advised.

The patient was old and not one  
a finger could be seen 10 years  
old, numerous patches through

After completing his education at Indiana University, he

James moved to Indianapolis where he pastored a Methodist Episcopal church and operated an integrated community center. Due to his liberal beliefs, Rev. James was generally regarded during his time by black

Rev. James was freshly turned

Through all of his activities

to travel to the city again. He returned through the desert with whom he says his first experience was that of his family due to their moral activities. He declares the International People's Party.

and battered who were  
wounded and everything went  
down in the same alley.

and taken from the  
The state "Lap of  
civil rights.



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pictured with his business  
(left to right) Lew Eric,

James W. Agnes III, 3,  
Agnes, 23, and married;  
Hine Jones, Richmond,  
a devoted and under-  
s; Stephen Gandhi, 7,  
4. (Recorder photo by  
del)



mission, is pictured with his handsome family (from left to right) Lew Eric, 11; Jimmy (James W. Jones H.) 3, Rev. Jones, Agnes, 23, and married; Mrs. Marceline Jones, Richmond, Ind., mother, a devoted and unselfish wife; Stephen Gandhi, 7, and Suzanne, 4. (Recorder photo by Houston Dickel)

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United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 93<sup>rd</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION  
JUNE 1973

## PEOPLES TEMPLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH SUPPORTS FIRST AMENDMENT

### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Speaker, I was recently made aware of the fact that the congregation of the Peoples Temple Christian Church of Redwood Valley, Calif., has donated a total of \$4,400 for the defense of William Farr and other reporters jailed for refusing to reveal their sources of information. I would like to commend the Rev. James W. Jones, who is pastor of the church, and every member of his congregation for this outstanding demonstration of their commitment to the principles on which this country was founded.

I would like to include in the Record at this point a few items which appeared in the press recently about Peoples Temple. The first is an article from the IAPA News, which is published bimonthly by the Inter American Press Association. This item appeared in the February-March edition, and reads as follows:

**CHURCH DONATION AID FARR FOR PRESS**

The Inter American Press Association, we all know, operates strictly on dues paid by members and does not solicit outside contributions for its main task of defending and promoting freedom of information. In the American Record, however, we received an unsolicited contribution that moved us deeply. We accepted it with gratitude and full appreciation of the high principles that moved the donors.

The donation of \$4,400 came from the congregation of the Peoples Temple Christian Church, of Redwood Valley, California, whose pastor, the Reverend James W. Jones, has sparked a campaign in defense of the First Amendment to the constitution.

"We believe," wrote James W. Jones, in behalf of the Board of Elders, "that the American way of life is being threatened by the recent jailings of news reporters for refusal to reveal their sources. As a church, we feel a responsibility to defend the free speech clause of the First Amendment. For without it America will have lost freedom of conscience and the climate will become ripe for totalitarianism."

The elders voted the donation after hearing the Rev. Jones read "to an overflow congregation" excerpts from a report on the state of the press in the U.S. made by Brady Black, editor of the Cincinnati Enquirer, and regional vice chairman of the IAPA's Committee on Freedom of the Press, at the IAPA's annual meeting last October in Chile. Mr. Black, "the evening letter said, 'gave a hard and convincing account of developments in our country smothering a threat to the people's right to know.' The letter was addressed to Francis Dale, Publisher of The Enquirer."

Mr. Jones reported that a grand total of \$4,400 had been contributed by the congregation, made up of "ordinary working people of all backgrounds," for the defense of Wil-

liam Farr and other reporters jailed for refusing to reveal their sources of information.

"No acknowledgment for this contribution is necessary," wrote Mr. Jones. "We wish simply to demonstrate . . . that there are churches and other groups in society which are not connected with the totalitarian press who do indeed care about this threat to freedom of speech, press and conscience."

He said the donors were "to be used as you are fit in defense of a free press."

The Peoples Temple Christian Church, under the Rev. Jones does not only take a stand on constitutional rights. The church also has established a drug rehabilitation program, two convalescent homes, a 30-acre home for mentally retarded boys, three senior citizens' homes and an animal shelter.

The item then appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle of January 17 of this year, and without further introduction, I place it in the Record:

**A CHURCH GIVES \$4,400 TO FARR**

Twelve newspapers—among them The Chronicle—and a newsmagazine and a television station have been awarded grants totaling \$4,400 by Peoples Temple Christian Church of the Disciples of Christ for use "in the defense of a free press."

Arrangement of the grants was made yesterday in Ukiah, Mendocino county, by the board of trustees of the church, which has a statewide membership of more than 1000.

### NEWS

Speaking for the board, trustee James E. Fugh said:

"We believe the American way of life is being threatened by the recent jailings of news reporters for refusal to reveal their sources."

"As a church, we feel a responsibility to defend the free speech clause of the First Amendment, for without it America will have lost freedom of conscience and the climate will become ripe for totalitarianism."

Fugh said the church's pastor, the Rev. Jim Jones, had "publicly commended" The Chronicle and its "fine editorial staff" for taking a strong editorial position in defense of the First Amendment and for "the high quality of the newspaper."

"The San Francisco Chronicle has shown itself to be fair, honest, comprehensive and courageous in maintaining many issues hard on," trustee Fugh said.

### NEWS

Called less formally Peoples Temple, the church is best known and highly regarded for its social work, which includes housing and feeding senior citizens and medical convalescents, maintaining a home for retarded boys, rehabilitating youthful drug users, and accepting non-members as well as members of the faith through college and legal difficulties.

In accepting the grant in behalf of The Chronicle, Charles de Young Thieriot, editor and publisher, expressed his thanks to the Peoples Temple Christian Church.

Thieriot said the \$4,400 awarded to The Chronicle will be turned over to Sigma Delta Chi, the professional journalistic society, which is active in defense of freedom of the press.

And next I would like to share with our colleagues the text of a resolution which the Christian Church of Northern California-Nevada—Disciples of Christ—passed by an overwhelming margin on May 19 at their 1973 annual meeting. The resolution was offered by the First Christian Church of San Jose and won broad support from the 290 delegates attending the convention at the First Christian Church of Modesto, Calif. The delegates represented about 18,000 members from 78 congregations.

The text of the resolution follows:

Whereas, the church stands for freedom, and the free flow of information, and

Whereas, the public media, namely the press, is under increased challenge as to its covering freedom in news and newsmaking, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, and

Whereas, one of our congregations, Peoples Temple Christian Church, Redwood Valley, California, has made a financial contribution for use in defense of a free press as guaranteed by the First Amendment;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Christian Church of Northern California-Nevada (Disciples of Christ), meeting in its Annual Meeting May 18, 19 and 20, 1973, at First Christian Church, Modesto, California, encourage its member congregations to make their voice heard in support of a free and responsible press by either making financial contributions to insure a free and responsible press or by letting our elected officials, representatives of the communications media, and others know that we oppose any action which infringes on the First Amendment.

And be it further resolved that the Christian Church of Northern California-Nevada (Disciples of Christ), meeting in its Annual Meeting, May 18, 19 and 20, 1973 at First Christian Church, Modesto, California, make known to our elected officials, representatives of communications media, and others our support of a free and responsible press and our commitment to that press and our rejection of any action which infringes on the First Amendment.

The Church Board, First Christian Church San Jose, California,

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The above matter appeared in the Congressional Record on June 1, 1973.

# THE PALLADIUM-ITEM

Richmond, Indiana, Sunday, April 6, 1975

## Former Lynn Resident, RHS Graduate, Leads 10,000-Member Church In Dramatic Projects

By Dick Reynolds  
Assistant Managing Editor

A 1945 Richmond High School graduate believes that the "highest worship of God is service to our fellow man" and he follows that belief on a scale that approaches the incredible for those wedded to practicality.

He is James Thurman Jones, 43, of Redwood Valley, Calif., a rural community about 120 miles north of San Francisco.

He's known generally, however, as Pastor Jim Jones to the thousands who are members of his church and to other thousands who know of his work in California and in South America.

A native of Crete in Randolph County who spent most of his boyhood years in Lynn, also in Randolph County, Pastor Jones has been in California for 10 years.

In that decade, his church, the Peoples Temple of the Disciples of Christ denomination, has grown from a meeting place in the garage of his home to 10,000 active members including congregations in Redwood Valley, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Michael J. Prokes, one of the church's associate ministers, says: Members United

"Peoples Temple is made up of thousands of people from every racial, religious, and socio-economic background, united by a vision of brotherhood among all human beings.

"Since establishing this church 10 years ago, Pastor Jones has achieved tremendous things in the humanitarian field. . .

"As a bureau chief for the CBS television affiliate in Sacramento, I came to do a film documentary on Peoples Temple a couple of years ago and became so impressed with the program that I resigned my position to join as a full-time staff worker."

Another view is offered by Wade Robick of Indianapolis, general counsel of the 1.5-million-member Disciples of Christ denomination. He said of Peoples Temple:

"From my numerous contacts with members and staff of the church, I can say they are the most committed and dedicated group of people I have seen in any church anywhere."

Pastor Jones puts it this way:

"I'm not an ardent fundamentalist. However, the church is required, through the admonitions of Jesus, to take care of its people.

"If every church attempted to meet its own needs by first taking care of the households of the faith, this nation would have the answer to the welfare state by taking the burden of providing for the people off the government, freeing the government to deal with other national priorities.

"We believe, then, in the Jeffersonian ideal that the government governs best which governs least."

### Major Projects

Some of the major projects of Peoples Temple are care homes for orphans and senior citizens, a 40-acre ranch for retarded children, convalescent centers, college dormitories, and a refuge shelter for animals.

Prokes declares:

"Pastor Jones believes that through such voluntary action pro-



Pastor and Mrs. Jim Jones pose with their children and four grandchildren in a photo snapped recently.

grams, the church can best help in combatting communism and other tyrannical systems that threaten a free society."

One of the most dramatic programs of Peoples Temple is the planting of 30 different crops on several thousand acres at the Venezuelan border in South America.

The church also has acquired a

ship, named the "Marceline," which can hold 80 tons of supplies. It is used to transport food produced in the church's agricultural mission to critical hunger regions.

Pastor Jones is the first to admit that these accomplishments aren't his alone. He credits members of the congregation and the associate ministers.



While Peoples Temple lists its active member rolls at about 10,500, it is estimated that another 10,000 attend services of the three congregations with many of the latter also involved in the church's wide-ranging projects.

#### May Be Largest

Prokes says it may be the largest Protestant congregation in America. Because of that vast membership, talents in almost every field of endeavor are available for work and advice, he adds.

Peoples Temple members often wonder just how a new project will be accomplished. But most of them have become convinced that anything is possible. One such person is Phillip Biskey, an Englishman who is the captain of the church's ship. I said recently:

"When Pastor Jim Jones suggested we look into buying a big vessel, I didn't envision the practicality of the idea at the time. But now I can hardly believe how much more productive we've become in helping people who are really suffering from hunger and insufficient health care."

How are the various projects accomplished? Contributions to a church with a congregation ranging from 10,000 to 20,000 are considerable. The church sponsors many money-making events ranging from bake sales to concession stands at baseball games.

Perhaps most important is the contribution of church members, from volunteer labor to the counsel of lawyers, doctors and numerous ordained ministers who have joined the congregation.

#### Where Did It Begin?

Pastor Jones recently was selected by Religion in American Life as one of the top 100 most outstanding clergymen in the nation. The question then is posed: How did it all begin for this 43-year-old transplanted Hoosier?

His parents were James and Lynette Jones. His father, a construction engineer, died in 1951 while young Jones was a student at Indiana University. His mother now resides with her son and his wife in California.

After growing up in Lynn, Pastor Jones spent his senior year in high school in Richmond to obtain courses needed to prepare him for college. He graduated from high school with honors.

He also worked at Reid Memorial Hospital to earn some extra money and it was there he met Marceline Baldwin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter R. Baldwin, who now reside at 149 South West Sixteenth St.

She was a student in Reid's School of Nursing and they were married after his graduation from high school. She couldn't know then that a ship was to be named for her.

Pastor Jones first goal was teaching and he took education courses at Indiana University, later transferring to Butler University at Indianapolis.

His wife, in Richmond recently as her parents prepared to observe their fiftieth wedding anniversary, says it was about this time that her husband decided "he couldn't reach enough people in the teaching field and decided to enter the ministry."

Before graduating from Butler, young Jim Jones became at 21 a student pastor in Indianapolis and his organizational ability began to manifest itself.

#### Launches Campaign

He launched a campaign among members of both Catholic and Protestant denominations to build a recreation center for the children living on the south side of Indianapolis.

In later years in Indianapolis he formed the first Peoples Temple and more than 100 members followed him to California when he decided to move there to organize a church in a more progressive area, his wife said, and for the sake of his family.

While still in Indianapolis, he was named the first director of the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights. It was also in the early 1960s that he and Mrs. Jones spent two years in South America as missionaries and it was in this period that he developed the friendships which led to the agricultural mission his church has set up there. His friends aren't surprised that he also built an orphanage during that two-year stint.

An officially ordained minister of the Disciples of Christ long before he left Indianapolis, Pastor Jones combined in his early years in California the pastoring of a new church, public school teaching, and a business career.

But his goal was to establish a congregation "of principled persons who would practice literally the words of Jesus in Matthew 25 to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and to visit the sick and imprisoned," a church leaflet recalls.

Pastor and Mrs. Jones have seven children, six of them adopted from impoverished and different racial and ethnic backgrounds. Another adopted child was killed in an auto accident before the family left Indiana.

#### In Modest Homes

Pastor and Mrs. Jones and their children still at home reside in a modest cinder block house in Redwood Valley. He accepts no formal salary. Mrs. Jones, a registered nurse since her graduation from Reid school here, is a health care evaluator for the California Department of Health.

While in Richmond, she discussed her husband's work. She said, simply:

"He doesn't believe Peoples Temple is important. What is important is humanity."

In their early married years she said she doubted some of her husband's planned projects could be accomplished.

But she has no doubts now and hasn't for many years.

Pastor Jones, who remembers "very affectionately the neighborliness" of Lynn and Richmond, leads six to eight services a week in the three congregations.

The work of Peoples Temple involves other areas than those mentioned earlier, including a continuing battle against the use of drugs and the development of ways to assist rehabilitated youthful drug users and others through college and over the hurdles of legal problems. Pointing to the work of the church, the San Francisco Chronicle has said:

"... this church is best known and highly regarded for its social

works which include housing and feeding senior citizens and medical convalescents, maintaining a home for retarded boys, rehabilitating youthful drug users, and assisting non-members as well as members of the faith through college and legal difficulties."

#### Two Incidents

Meanwhile, Mrs. Jones and the files of The Palladium-Herald provide two incidents which demonstrate the early concern of Pastor Jones for humanity.

Mrs. Jones remembers that she and her husband went to a nursing home to visit a member of their church while they still lived in Indianapolis. She recalls:

"The conditions were so pitiful that we picked her up bodily and carried her to our home. Terminally ill, she lived in our home until she died eight months later."

"The conditions at that nursing home gave my husband one of his early reasons to build care homes for the elderly."

This newspaper's files show a story written in 1953 by reporter William B. Tremi. The story told of the young student minister, Jim Jones, and his campaign for a recreation center in Indianapolis.

But it also recalled an incident when Jim Jones was only 8 years old.

His mother told reporter Tremi that her son saw a ragged, bearded tramp near their Lynn home. The year was about 1938.

#### A Child's Questions

As the child questioned the stranger, the man finally answered:

"I don't have a friend in the world. I'm about ready to give up."

The boy then said firmly:

"What do you mean, mister? God's your friend and I'm your friend. And mom will help you get a job."

Mrs. Jones did just that and Tremi wrote in his story:

"The rejuvenation of a man who had lost hope marked a milestone in Jim Jones' life. His love for humanity and his desire to help the unfortunate was eventually to lead him to the ministry."

There is no way the reporter of 22 years ago could have realized how prophetic his words were.



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# Los Angeles Sentinel

LARGEST NEGRO-OWNED NEWSPAPER IN THE WEST

20¢

Los Angeles, Calif. 90011  
Published Monday, May 26, 1973

## Jones Honored By Organization

By VIRGIL W. MURRAY

The pastor of Peoples Temple of the Disciples of Christ, James V. Jones, was recently named one of the 100 most outstanding clergymen in the nation by Religion In American Life, an inter-faith organization.

Jones was honored for his guidance and inspiration in establishing the many humanitarian programs and facilities in Peoples Temple that attempt to meet every type of human need.

Peoples Temple is scattered over California, with members in many cities, traveling in the church's fleet of Greyhound type buses to worship services in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and the church in Redwood Valley.

A native of Indiana, Pastor Jones has been in California for 10 years. In that decade, Peoples Temple has grown from a meeting place in the garage of his home to 10,500 members in the three congregations.

### RESPONDS

This ministry is known for responding to both public and private appeals for assistance, giving support to the local school system and law enforcement. The Temple has rehabilitated over 175 young people from hard-line drug habits and educated many local residents through its college program.

Pastor Jones and Peoples Temple have been viewed by many people. Dr. John Moore, District Superintendent of the United Methodist Church said, "Peoples Temple is a caring community of people of all

ages and classes. They bear the mark of compassion and justice — compassion for the hungry and jobless, lonely and disturbed, and also for the earth and her offspring."

### INJUSTICE

Michael Prokes, former TV News Bureau Chief, who resigned his post to join Peoples Temple, stated, "Pastor Jones manifests the life of Christ by working day and night to stand courageously against all forms of injustice, to relieve human suffering of every kind, and to establish brotherhood among peoples of all different backgrounds."

The Rev. Gerald McHarg, assoc. regional pastor, Christian Churches, Southern California, commented, "I have the impression the congregation is ready, willing, and able to assist any human being with almost any problem. One gets the impression of being in the midst of the human race at its best: a community of people whose primary concern is to love and to serve."

### CONGRESS

A legislator stated on the floor of Congress, "Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the Rev. James Jones and every member of his congregation for this outstanding demonstration of their com-

mitment to the principles on which this country was founded."

The Rev. Karl Irvin Jr., regional minister-president, The Christian Church of Northern California-Nevada, Disciples of Christ, said "Pastor Jones has a great organizational ability. He has been largely responsible for the establishment of a large congregation of everyday human beings from all walks of life, binding them together in a truly extraordinary commitment to human service. The ministries of this pastor and his congregation are staggering in scope and effectiveness."

### SERVES NEEDY

Besides serving the needs of the people in California, Peoples Temple also serves needy in South America. They have acquired a large ocean-going boat which can hold 50 tons of supplies and will be used to transport food produced in the church's agricultural mission to critical hunger regions of the world.

While awaiting the next harvest, the boat is being used to take sick people to hospitals, and delivering food, clothing and other supplies where they are needed by people living in remote areas of South America.



**HONORED** — Pastor Jim Jones of Peoples Temple receiving "Humanitarian of the Year" award. Some of the honored guests at the ceremony were, from left: Dr. and Mrs. John Moore, Methodist district superintendent in California, Pastor

Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald McHarg, regional pastor of 200 Christian churches, Mrs. Lorena Cole, publisher S. Alexander, Dr. Yvonne Mao, and Dr. Charles Hall, a prominent dentist.

## Vast humanitarian ministry

# Temple expands outreach program

Peoples Temple Christian Church, of the nationwide Disciples of Christ denomination of two million members, expanded its extensive outreach program this past year to include a large number of wide-ranging groups, organizations, and causes, all concerned with improving the welfare of the citizenry.

Among those who received financial and other kinds of support from the Temple were the Fresno Bee newsmen arrested for refusing to reveal their confidential sources of information; a medical clinic (Tel-Hi) serving the Bay Area, which otherwise would probably would have had to close its doors; the American Cancer Society; the Mendocino County Heart Association and other medical research and testing programs, such as Sickle-Cell Anemia; KQED and other educational broadcasting stations; Big-Brothers of

America; anti-hunger groups such as Bread for the World; Indian relief; city schools; hospital development; various church programs operated under Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish sponsorship; the purchase of at least 1,700 concert tickets to benefit the Center for Self-Determination; and many others, the most recent being a donation of \$300 to the family of a slain highway patrolman in the Fresno area, for which the Temple was highly praised last week in an article in the San Francisco Chronicle.

The above support was in addition to the Temple's own vast humanitarian ministry, pastored by Rev. Jim Jones of

Redwood Valley, which is widely recognized for providing its many thousands of members, and others who are non-members with care homes and convalescent centers; a children's ranch on 40 acres; apartment units for senior citizens; free legal services and health care, including effective drug rehabilitation; bus transportation; college education for young people; food, clothing, and other round-the-clock emergency services; and large refuge shelters for all kinds of animals.

Pastor Jones' ministry is concerned not only with helping to meet the needs of those who are disadvantaged, but also

with identifying the causes of those needs so that they might be eradicated from our society. It is because of this consistent and genuine effort that Pastor Jones received the highly coveted award of the Los Angeles Herald as the "Humanitarian of the Year." In a ceremony he was presented with a beautiful painting from internationally known artist Dr. Yvonne Mao, and a trophy.



## Thomas Fleming's Weekly Report

Jim Jones, an independent leader or pastor of a church within the Christian religion, is not well liked by some elements of the Christian religion. We use the term "independent," because Jim Jones is outside the confines of the structured or denominational groups, such as Catholic, Methodist, Baptist, Lutheran, Anglican, or any other that tells its followers that its particular method is the best method by which all those interested in the hereafter may reach the goal of entering into the kingdom of the hereafter.

Jones perhaps looked in his early days, and what he saw caused him the same emotion of disgust that kept Henry L. Mencken all through his lifetime as one of the great agnostics. Jones is the founder of Peoples Temple, a religious organization that follows the precepts of Jesus Christ more diligently than does any other group that professes to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Christ, during his short career among men, preached a philosophy of loving thy brother regardless of color or speech. At least, that is the way in which this writer views Christ and the faith that is named after him—Christianity.

Jones, in his endeavor to make life comfortable for all mankind, struck a note of genuine empathy for those persons who had been generally ignored by other prophets or messiahs who claimed direct contact with Christ, when such prophets or messiahs organized their own sects.

Black and the other pariah groups mostly were regarded as outcasts, not because they were not also of humankind, but because the other messiahs and prophets were more interested in capturing adherents among the more affluent people of the world who would be in a position to donate generous sums of money. These donations would cram the coffers of the prophets and messiahs who organized so-called Christian sects.

The growth of Peoples Temple has been phenomenal, simply because Jones and his immediate followers have got across to those who comprise the pariah class that there is a group that is genuinely interested in seeing people—all people—become brothers under one common Father—Jehovah.

Jones's success has been a source of trouble for him and for those persons who have become his detractors. Jones first became the target of a

so-called holy man, who supplemented his meager income as a preacher by contributing scurrilous writings to a number of newspapers, including the San Francisco Examiner, discussing Jones's methods of defining Christianity for those persons who were looking for some form of spiritual surcease from the vexing problems of everyday living.

But attacks upon the Jones program of the brotherhood of mankind have not decreased one iota. Attacks upon the brotherhood program have been intensified to the same extent that earlier attacks were made against Jesus Christ in his day.

Then there are some members of the bureaucratic group here in the United States who find it most unpleasant to behold peoples of different colors and speech worshiping in one and the same temple without any hindrance stemming from those superficial differences. The Jones organization has shown some concern about the vitriolic nature of the criticism that has been directed against it by faceless people who never show themselves. Most of the diatribes have been issued in the form of hate mail, which should be ignored, but one never knows just how far the writers of threatening letters are prepared to go to carry out their written threats.

I cannot, because of space limitations, go into all of the social welfare programs that Peoples Temple has become involved in since its inception, but they are considerable. There has not been one instance where Peoples Temple has ever sucked anyone out of his money so the Temple might conduct its magnificent welfare work. These programs are such a vibrant portion of the Christlike religious undertaking that Jim Jones and his followers offer to the polyglot people of this community who call themselves, and who are, American citizens.

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Examiner RTH, Feb. 5, 1975

# Changing habit from heroin-to helping

By James Schermerborn

Marie Duckett was a heroin addict maintaining \$200 a day into her system when she first heard the Rev. Jim Jones speak at his Peoples Temple of the Disciples of Christ.

She had pleaded guilty numerous times to petty theft, to felony theft and to felony possession of dangerous drugs. She had spent time in prison.

Heroin ran her life and she hated it.

"I tapped him (Jones) on the shoulder when he came down the aisle," she said. "I told him, 'I need your help.'"

Jones says, "I saw her desperation... She looked 45... I thought she was mentally broken. I wondered if she could recover."

He took her to his home, a farm operated by the church 30 miles outside of Ukiah, with his wife and eight children.

That was more than three years ago. She has not been near her old life since.

She has been living in a church house, either in The City or at the farm in Ukiah. Her four children are here, and are cared for with the church's help.

She has worked for various agencies treating drug addicts, at local hospitals as a nurses' aide, and at her kitchen.

Marie today looks her 31 years. She is strong and healthy.

The problem is there — if she doesn't have to go back to prison.

Ironically, her past caught up with her because of her work for the church.

The church board wanted to send her to Guinea, to help operate its experimental farm project.

When she was asked to go, Marie was forced to admit she was a parole violator because she had not been reporting to the California Rehabilitation Center, a state prison where she was sent as a heroin addict in 1969.

There is an unwritten petty theft charge, and violation of probation on other offenses, as well, she said.

She said she was sure to be caught if she applied for a passport, and the church would be "embarrassed," Jones said.

But Jones and his church are not embarrassed, and they want to help her.

Gene Chaiken, who volunteers his services as an attorney for the church, — where her troubles with the law occurred — went to Southern California to learn the details of what she faces. It could mean as long as nine years in prison, he said.

Marie, once a movie extra and a dancer, was an addict for five years. It began when the man she lived with began stealing money she had saved to attend nursing school. She learned he was buying heroin with it.

"I was 22, and dumb. He was a brilliant man and I still don't know why he took heroin."



Marie Duckett's future is promising — if she doesn't have to go back to prison.

Examiner Photo by Seymour S. ...

"But one day I put out my arm. I said, 'We share everything else, we might as well share this.'"

She left nursing school and the career she wanted.

Then her common-law husband was sent to prison, leaving her in the world of addicts, thieves, prostitutes and pushers.

He left her only one thing: Heroin addiction.

Marie is going to turn herself in before a Superior Court judge in Los Angeles tomorrow. It was her decision.

At her side will be Los Angeles attorney Robert E. Winslow, a former Superior Court judge in Mendocino County who is donating his services.

Jones will be there, too. He hopes, on the basis of her record with the church, she may be

released into his care.

"When someone is rehabilitated in our program, I know it. He is one of these," he said.

He is ready to describe the things she has done here — from the most tedious volunteer tasks to the study of engines, farm equipment and various sciences.

715

# The New York Times

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NEW YORK SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1976

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## JAILING OF NEWSMEN PROTESTED ON COAST

10 Hundreds of Church Members  
From San Francisco Picket  
Courthouse in Fresno

By WALLACE TUNGER  
Special to The New York Times

(Excerpted from New York Times article which included a photo of the demonstrators.)

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Sept. 20:

Two hundreds of demonstrators from an activist church in a depressed district here will picket the Fresno County Courthouse around the clock this weekend to protest the jailing of four

newsmen on contempt of court charges.

"We feel that the Judeo-Christian tradition's most prominent concern is freedom," said the Rev. Ben Jones, 44 years old. "Where the spirit of God is, there's liberty. We've always been very freedom-orientation."

Two Fresno Bee editors and two reporters were jailed Sept. 3 in an attempt to make them tell the court how they gained access to secret grand jury testimony in an investigation of civic corruption. No public outcry has arisen in Fresno about the treatment of the local paper's staff.

### Apathy Soured

Mr. Jones, the pastor of the San Francisco church group picketing here, said, "The apathy is appalling. Either it's that or

despair. I don't know what to make of it."

He said the pickets walked all night and planned to continue until early Sunday. As they marched, they yelled passively.

"Teachers and social workers had wholesome attitudes," Mr. Jones said. "Some of the lawyers have been more sympathetic to the court's attitude. The most understanding people that we meet are the Chicacos. They hear of things in Mexico City that make them worry about this."

"I was a missionary in Brazil, and I saw a coup d'etat," he said, "and the people there were less apathetic than I think we are at this stage in American life. This is not just the press's battle. The least we could do is stand out here and walk."



Members of the Peoples Temple Church of San Francisco picketing the Fresno County Courthouse.





Sun. Sept. 19, 1978

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# Peoples Temple: Service To Fellow Man

By RAY STETLE JR.  
Bee Staff Writer

PEOPLES TEMPLE is many things to many people.

Its demonstrations last week on behalf of Star-jailed Fresno Bee newsmen is emblematic of its active role in society.

The church, based in the Bay Area, provides housing and care for the elderly and orphans and dormitories for college students.

It operates a farm mission in South America to produce food for the underprivileged while teaching the nationals self-sufficiency and attempting to dispel a bad image of the United States.

It has a fleet of Grayhound-type buses for transporting its 2,000 members throughout the state to church meetings and rallies.

It offers free legal services and health care.

It has a boat sailing off the South American coast which provides medical and agricultural assistance to those countries.

Each year it channels thousands of dollars into to many philanthropic organizations that its list of beneficiaries rivals a United Way directory.

Let the Peoples Temple hear of a need and the congregation jumps in to help.

IN THE LAST YEAR, the congregation's donations have:

— Helped keep open a medical clinic in San Francisco which otherwise would have closed.

— Financed research in the medical fields of cancer, heart disease and sickle-cell anemia.

— Supported educational broadcasting such as KQED.

— Provided emergency cash to distressed families, particularly those of slain law enforcement officers.

— Boosted the territories of groups fighting hunger, building schools, developing hospitals, opening church programs or working with Indians.

— Aided civil rights causes, both financially and through demonstrations, including those involving discrimination and the jailing of The Bay Area's and Los Angeles Times reporter William Farr.

Peoples Temple Christian Church, as it is properly called, is affiliated with the 2-million member, nationwide Disciples of Christ.

THE MAN BEHIND the multifaceted church is the Rev. Jim Jones, 44, a pastor and missionary for 23 years, and formerly a teacher and businessman.

Jesus' theology is succinct: "The highest worship to God is service to your fellow man."

Members of the church interviewed

**I visualize God as love. You can reverse that, too, and say love is God.**

Jesus admits he doesn't adhere to fundamentalist teachings of the Bible, but is driven by his oft-repeated phrase of serving fellow man.

He does it with a budget of \$400,000 — "We try to be frugal," he says — and a congregation that is willing to leave home or job to get involved.

"I visualize God as love," he said in an interview. "You can reverse that, too, and say love is God. I try to manifest the highest degree of love and compassion that I can with my finite being."

Jesus, in Matthew, put the pressure on the church by emphasizing its white powder for others that counts.

That's what we try to do, to serve others."

A NATIVE OF Indiana where he was graduated from the University of Indiana and a Bible college, Jones began preaching soon after he got out of school. He also worked part-time as a school teacher to supplement his income.

After serving several pastorates there, he came to California 11 years ago, settling in the small Mendocino County community of Redwood Valley, eight miles north of Ukiah.

"We considered California more progressive," said Jones of the family's decision to come West. "Having adopted a black child, we thought it created a lot of pressures. We heard there were a number of ethnic groups scattered in Redwood Valley and it would give us an opportunity to grow up on a small farm."

Jones noted that of his nine children, eight are adopted and most are of mixed ancestries including Korean, Indian, Mexican and Japanese.

HIS CHURCH is as diverse as his family, and has been described by one religious writer as the most multi-racial congregations ever seen. Jones said about 15 per cent are Caucasians, 45 per cent black, 10 per cent Chinese and 10 per cent Indian and Asian.

"We go out of our way to break down all barriers between socio-economic and ethnic classes," said Jones. "We find a very wholesome union between all these people."

"We think there is something important in the Kerner Commission Report which said we are heading toward two nations, separate but unequal, one black, one white. One of the sharpest messages of the Scriptures is that God doesn't see a difference in people."

"One of the challenges of this church is that there are no barriers between young and old. The typical thing you see in a church is a gap between age. You don't see that in our church. Neither do you see a gap between race or creed."

In the same vein, the church is open to all beliefs. There are both fundamentalists — "set me many," said Jones — and agnostics. "We even have people who come here just because they like to help people and care about serving people. They find they are equal. We don't claim to be a highly evolved people."

THE BAPTIST TRUST. James said, "Is that members should subscribe to the practical teachings of Jesus Christ."

"We don't attempt to change the first verse of Matthew or the temperature of hell," said James. "I'm not fanatic. That's one of the dangers. James said we don't hold the temples of heaven as an idol. Well, when we were preaching, James said it was the Lord's will for them men to be in hell. I think that is a dangerous error too."

James began his California ministry in the parish of Los Angeles Valley from James members of the Indian congregation followed him west and the church grew.

He opened a branch church in the Phoenix district of San Francisco street 7000 ago. It now serves as his headquarters. Another branch was opened in Los Angeles four years ago.

THEIR ALTHOUGH EXPANDING THROUGHOUT the state who are transported to missions on Friday, Saturday and Sunday that we are optimistic, we also want it known that

we are opposed to violence.

Members at one of the three churches by the first of James. James or one of 13 members ministers conduct the service, with James alternating weekends in Los Angeles and the Bay Area.

The San Francisco church is in what James calls a "transitional area." A kind way of saying a number of the buildings are deteriorating. It is a church without permanent pews so that the facility can be transformed into a community center.

From there, area residents are offered free medical care provided by volunteer nurses and doctors, and free legal services provided by volunteer attorneys.

Additionally, there are genetic facilities for the elderly, a drug rehabilitation program which James says has helped more than 125 persons break the habit and a food pantry.

EVERYONE, INCLUDING those who work, James said. Los Angeles Temple does not require any kind of religious indoctrination of hungry, homeless, and suffering people.

People's Temple has donated thousands of dollars to other causes such as the American Heart Association, the American Cancer Society, Big Brothers of America, or Indian relief programs and a plan to combat hunger.

When a lay volunteer officer is critically shot or slain, the church usually steps into help with money, said James. The church gave the family of a slain Highway Patrolman in Los Angeles.

"Being that we are not a religion, we don't want it known, that we are opposed to violence," said James. "However, an officer is slain, we make a donation to the family. The typical image of the person who preaches the people's rights is that they are violent. We are peaceful."

FOR THE last half of the church's growth is located in below writing, however, about 1,500 members of the church, meeting paper "The San Francisco" business as their temple, participated in last week's speaking of the Democratic leadership, said James.

One of those speakers was Jacoba Carter, wife of Democratic presidential candidate Jimmy Carter, who asked James to dine with her.

"I can tell you this," said James. "I tell her all about The Day After."

James said the money he and the church's activities comes from members "and others just wanting to help."

"We have no demand on anyone," said James. "When the congregations start to be burgeoning, they tend to request. James extends just asks people so that they put on some things or help others. That helps rather than hurt."

JOHN A. NO SAID the church is "very helpful," and that the son of the San Francisco church "volunteer" is a well-known facility as an executive.

James said the membership there for many hundreds in Peoples Temple is the work of the cause.

"We are interested in your religion, for example, because there are people who are interested in your religion," said James. "We have demonstrated that the Civil Rights movement, from back. But we saw that the white people sharing temples were the movement, so we decided to get involved."



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# Minister visits People's Temple farm

MINISTER of Labour and Social Security Cdr. Winifred Cunningham recently visited the People's Temple agricultural mission at Port Kaituma, North West District. Cunningham being taken by the group of people there. Above the Minister is seen surrounded by members of the organization.

They include Joyce and Jim of the People's Temple at left. The Minister is third from left and on his left is Pop Jones, the oldest member of the group who will be 88 years of age next month.

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## STOCKTAKING

The following Departments will be closed for stock-taking.

Ministry Ferguson Agricultural Machinery Department -- 3rd to 4th January, 1977.

Ministry Ferguson Agricultural Machinery Spare Parts Dept. -- 3rd to 10th January, 1977.

Hardcastle Department, Hardware Division and Book Stationery Division -- Camp Street -- 3rd to 5th January, 1977.

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## TRANSPORT AND HARBOURS DEPARTMENT HARBOURS BRANCH

### VACANCY CIRCULAR

Two of Veterans' roles for Port Traffic, Harbours Branch, Transport and Harbours Department.

Applications are invited from persons holding relevant experience for consideration for the post of Port Traffic in the Harbours Branch of the Transport and Harbours Department.

The posts of Port Traffic are the most senior posts in the Harbours Branch of the Transport and Harbours Department.

**JOB SPECIFICATION:**  
1. Have Trade Master or Master Certificate with appropriate experience in port.  
2. The successful applicant will be required to coordinate the Port Traffic Branch of the Harbours Branch.

3. On appointment the applicant will have to sign an agreement to work on a full-time basis for the Transport and Harbours Department, or for 10 years after the completion of their training.

4. Applications should be forwarded to reach the General Manager, Transport and Harbours Department, 1, Victoria Street, Georgetown, not later than 15th January, 1977.

Applications received after the closing date will not be considered.

W. H. G. G. G.  
General Manager



## Rev. King Awards Given At Glide



Rev. Cecil Williams (center) presents Martin Luther King Humanitarian Awards to (from left): Robert Gnoizda (Public Advocate), Mack Lyons (United Farm Workers Union), Rev. Jim Jones (Peoples Temple), and Dr. Carlton Goodlett (publisher, Sun-Reporter).



Rev. Jim Jones receives award in recognition of his outstanding efforts to further the ideas of civil rights and civil liberties championed by Dr. King.

Two prominent San Franciscans and two organizations received special awards yesterday at Glide Memorial Church marking the 48th anniversary of the birth of civil rights leader the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

Recipients of the Fourth Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Awards were the Rev. Jim Jones of Peoples Temple, publisher Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett of the Sun Reporter newspaper, the United Farm Workers Union and Public Advocates, Inc.

The Rev. Cecil Williams, pastor of Glide Memorial Church, gave out the awards in a festive "celebration" that featured rock music, political commentary and enthusiasm on the part of the large audience.

The Rev. Mr. Williams said the recipients of the awards have dedicated themselves to "breaking the barriers that separate, segregate, destroy the lives of people."

Goodlett and the Rev. Mr. Jones accepted their awards in person. Attorney Robert Gnoizda accepted the award for Public Advocates, a group that in the past has sued both the San Francisco police and fire departments for alleged racial discrimination in hiring.

Mack Lyons, a member of the United Farm Workers executive board, accepted the award for the union.

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THE SUN REPORTER, Thursday, March 14, 1977 PAGE 1

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# PERSPECTIVES

OPINIONS · NEWS ANALYSIS · FEATURES

## Agriculture Mission Offers New Hope For Young Urban "Incorrigibles"

Tommy, a young man who grew up in the squalor of the big city, was so much of a problem that nobody, it seemed, could deal with him. As a last resort he chose to go to the agricultural project (located in Guyana), and today he is a skilled worker, in charge of acres of gardens, with major responsibilities in a livestock development program he has helped set up.

He is just one of 121 "incorrigible" youths who have succeeded in a changed environment, in which they were given useful, rewarding work and training, a feeling of being cared for, and in which they discovered for the first time that they could really accomplish something worthwhile.

From every indication, it is certain that, without this program, many of the youths who have gone to Guyana would today be part of the crime problem in our city—some would right now be engaged, not only in theft and vandalism, but also in much more serious crime.

The temple's project is located on several thousand acres in the lush interior of the newly developing nation. The land is rapidly being transformed from virgin jungle into productive cropland and pasture. More than 200 varieties of vegetables, fruits, and nuts are being cultivated. Cattle, chickens, and pigs are raised. A fully equipped and professionally staffed medical clinic is in the works, and a sawmill and cottage industries plant have been constructed.

The community surrounding these projects is a busy co-operative; native Guyanese live and work along with the North Americans in a lifestyle that combines work, recreation, and cultural enrichment, in a natural setting.

The project has been visited and enthusiastically praised by both Guyanese and American officials.

The positive, healthful, and natural environment has proved remarkably successful in bringing about fundamental changes in individuals considered "hopeless cases" in settings where there were frustration, alienation, and very few opportunities.

One of the project coordinators says, "Our experience with the Guyana project and the dramatic changes that have come over the lives of the young people who have participated there have made us 'environmental determinists,' so to speak. We are convinced that a change in the physical and social conditions in which a child grows up play a critical role in shaping the personality."

Prisons, where the environment reinforces and significantly hardens the negative, destructive patterns of inmates, contribute to the problem. Rev. Jim Jones, who initiated the Guyana project, warns that "we had better, as a society, begin seriously to explore and develop environments and social structures that attack the problem at the roots. The setting of despair, violence, and poverty that characterizes inner cities is the culprit. The prisons merely release their inmates back into



Wearing a home-made cap, Tommy heads for the gardens of the utility tractor. Once a so-called "incorrigible" victim of poverty's downward cycle, he now supervises several workers and a 60-acre vegetable garden that sustains the project volunteers.

the environment, bitter, and with the stigma of 'ex-con.' What else can we expect but a high recidivism rate?

"It is time for society," Jones continued, "to break this vicious cycle. It is time to develop alternatives, such as co-operative communities where real rehabilitation can take place, where young people can be given a chance to develop their talents rather than having their frustrated and channeled into criminal and antisocial patterns. It could be that initiatives in this area might become a starting point for larger efforts to solve the problem of decaying inner cities, and the ghettoization of its residents."

"It is time to take a cue from organizations that are... [illegible] such communities, which are not only pointing out social ills, not only discussing and proposing meaningful remedies, but making them work to bring about practical solutions. If we don't make a beginning, time, money, and lives will continue to be wasted in futile efforts to

make outmoded and ineffective formulas work."

Jones also feels some discomfort about the fact that the public is receiving what can only be termed a form of brainwashing through so many TV shows. Popular programming has had the effect of encouraging people to reject others who are not "normal" or well-adjusted, to consider them as somehow socially unacceptable, thus providing a ready-made justification for their removal from society, for punitive incarceration. Even people who are mentally ill, he notes, are being put in this category and are regarded as not quite "human."

The Guyana project, Rev. Jones feels, could serve as a model for similar experiments here in the United States. "We need to humanize our institutions and see people as not essentially bad or 'incorrigible,' but as victims of environment—and we need to do something about that environment."

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By Bob Levering

**T**he biggest religion story in the Bay Area these days isn't the deprogramming of the Moonies, women's moves on the priesthood in Catholic and Episcopal congregations, or even the latest on Jerry Brown's gurus.

Instead, it's the phenomenon of Peoples Temple, a church that has been in San Francisco less than five years but has already become the largest single Protestant congregation in the state (more than 20,000 members), participating in activities as diverse as supporting the infants at the International Hotel (more than 3,000 church members turned out for a demonstration last January) and publishing the Bay Area's largest circulation newspaper, the monthly Peoples Forum (they distribute between 600,000 and 1,000,000 copies to every neighborhood in San Francisco and throughout the East Bay, the Peninsula and Marin County).

More: This church, affiliated with the Disciples of Christ—a conventional Protestant denomination that has boasted Lyndon Johnson among its



**Jim Jones: "I have a lot of guilt—guilt to know my taxes go to the Shah of Iran and Chile. Some people don't feel guilty at all about these things, and I sure don't want to end up like them."**

1.4 million members—also has a free meals program that surpasses even St. Anthony's Dining Room in number of meals served daily (1,400 to St. Anthony's 1,200) and a 27,000-acre ranch in Guyana where members grow cassava and 170 other crops. It has given away money to the families of slain policemen. It conducts a massive human service program including a drug rehabilitation project, its own medical and legal clinics, a home for mentally disabled children and four nursing homes in Mendocino.

The leader of this rather unusual church is the Rev. Jim Jones, who was recently appointed to the SF Housing Commission by Mayor Moscone—and shortly thereafter was meeting with Huey Newton in Cuba. A quick look at a recent issue of Peoples Forum indicates the wide variety of concerns its church addresses: there's a lead story on "Laura Allende: Woman of Courage," about a recent visit to the church by the slain Chilean president's sister; an "Open letter to local Nazis," condemning these "abominable racists"; articles on aging, cancer and teenage suicide; a condemnation of the terrorist attack on Sup. Dianne Feinstein's home; and a long editorial about the link between unemployment and crime, saying people must "face up to some of the vicious inequities and injustices in our social order."

One article in Peoples Forum, though, best sums up what may be the key to understanding the Peoples Temple phenomenon. Entitled "Youth to the rescue," it describes how a Peoples Temple member had rushed into a burning apartment and helped rescue a woman and her two small children. It quotes the young rescuer, Daniel Kopplin, as giving credit for his daring effort to the philosophy he has been taught in his church: "When I felt the urge to go in, I knew I should go. My Pastor [Jones] has taught that there's usually a good reason for

this kind of feeling, so I was sure I would make it." The article then cited a similar incident that involved three Peoples Temple youths last spring, and concludes, "Why have these youths risked their lives for people they did not even know? As Supervisor Feinstein observed, apathy and lack of concern for others lie at the root of our society's problems. Rev. Jones, however, has instilled in his members a willingness to get involved where human life is at stake."

As corny as that story sounds, it fairly accurately sums up the sort of attitude Jones has generated among the church's membership. It's as if he has found a way of translating and dramatizing the old Christian message that serving one's fellow human beings is an end in itself and has somehow produced a fast-growing community of politically aware and very spirited do-gooders.

A church service at Peoples Temple, where this sort of feeling is instilled, is hard to forget. The one I attended took place on a Saturday night at the church, 1859 Geary Street, in the heart of SF's Fillmore district, a mostly black ghetto. Peoples Temple acquired the building, a former youth center, in mid-1972 and uses it as the headquarters for its far-flung operations.

The service began at 8:30 pm, but Jim (the name he prefers to be called rather than the Rev. Mr. Jones or Pastor Jones) arrived two hours late. The mood in the church when he arrived reminded me of the crowd at a United Farm Workers rally with Cesar Chavez in the San Joaquin valley. The electricity in the atmosphere was almost tangible. Every seat was taken and people were standing in the back and along the walls. The congregation was perhaps 75% black, with a median age well over 35. At the same time, however, all ages and races were well represented in the crowd of some 3,000 people.

Jones was expected to be somewhat late because he was giving the main address at a banquet for the Officers of Justice, a group of mostly minority San Francisco police officers. But he explained later that he was confronted on the way back to the church by a woman "who was talking suicide." So, Jones related, he took the time to counsel her while hundreds of people at the temple awaited his arrival by singing gospel songs and conducting an informal church business meeting. As he explained, he knew the people would "understand" the need for him to take time with the woman in the crisis situation. He was right: no one seemed at all put off by the late arrival of their pastor. People at the church seem to expect as much from him, in fact. It wreaks havoc on schedules and plans, but his constant questioning of the usual order of things seems part of the attraction of one of California's fastest-growing religious movements—in an age when most Protestant churches are declining.

Jim Jones founded Peoples Temple near Ukiah in Mendocino County in the middle Sixties, bringing the message to San Francisco several years later and repeating the process in Los Angeles, where the church acquired a building for its services in late 1972. Today, Jones not only commutes weekly between the three churches, but as many as 200 members make the trek between the San Francisco and Los Angeles churches on alternate weeks using buses from the Temple's fleet of 13 converted Greybouds.

Today, the sheer size and scope of the Peoples Temple operation is mind-boggling. Of the church's 20,000-plus members (attendance at a minimum of five church meetings is required before someone is admitted to membership), about 9,000 are in San Francisco, 10,000 in Los Angeles and 1,500 in Ukiah. In addition to the huge food program (volunteers obtain most of the

food through donations from wholesalers and local merchants), there are some of the other Peoples Temple programs:

- A clinic in the San Francisco church, in which about 80 persons are seen each day by qualified nurses for general checkups or in special clinics, such as for sickle cell anemia or pap smears. Referrals are made to local doctors for more difficult cases.

- A physical therapy facility in San Francisco, for seniors and handicapped persons, with diathermy and whirlpool treatments for arthritic conditions.

- A drug rehabilitation program in San Francisco that claims to have "rehabilitated" 300 former drug addicts. The addicts withdraw from dope by the cold turkey method and are only considered "rehabilitated" after two full years without a relapse. Many of the addicts receive training in one of the Temple's vocational training programs in fields such as printing, electronics or auto repair.

- A legal aid program in San Francisco where some 200 people a month come with serious legal, usually criminal problems.

- A 27,000-acre agricultural station that was begun two years ago by several dozen church members in a remote jungle region in the South American country of Guyana. The main crop is cassava, a root vegetable, though some 170 crops are now grown there, many of them export mental. About one-fourth of the church's annual budget of \$800,000 is devoted to the project. Now there are about 100 church members working on the farm, all committed to spending at least several years there. Many of these were ghetto youths with long histories of social problems in America; Jones says many of these youths have been "rehabilitated."

- Four nursing homes for seniors in Mendocino County, each of which has from 10 to 25 elderly residents.



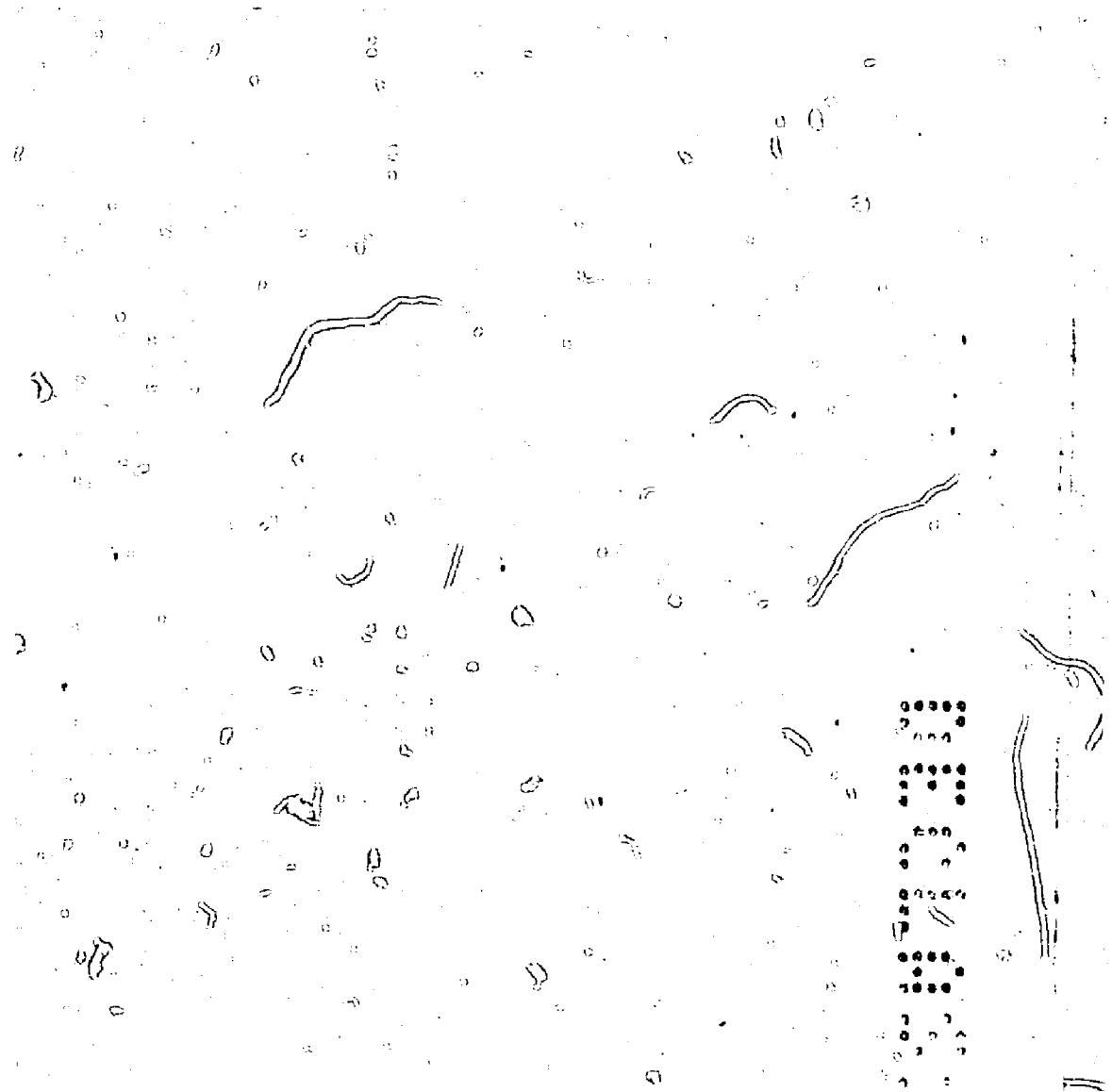
## Jim Jones has made his share of enemies for his political stands, but no one accuses him of being a hypocrite.

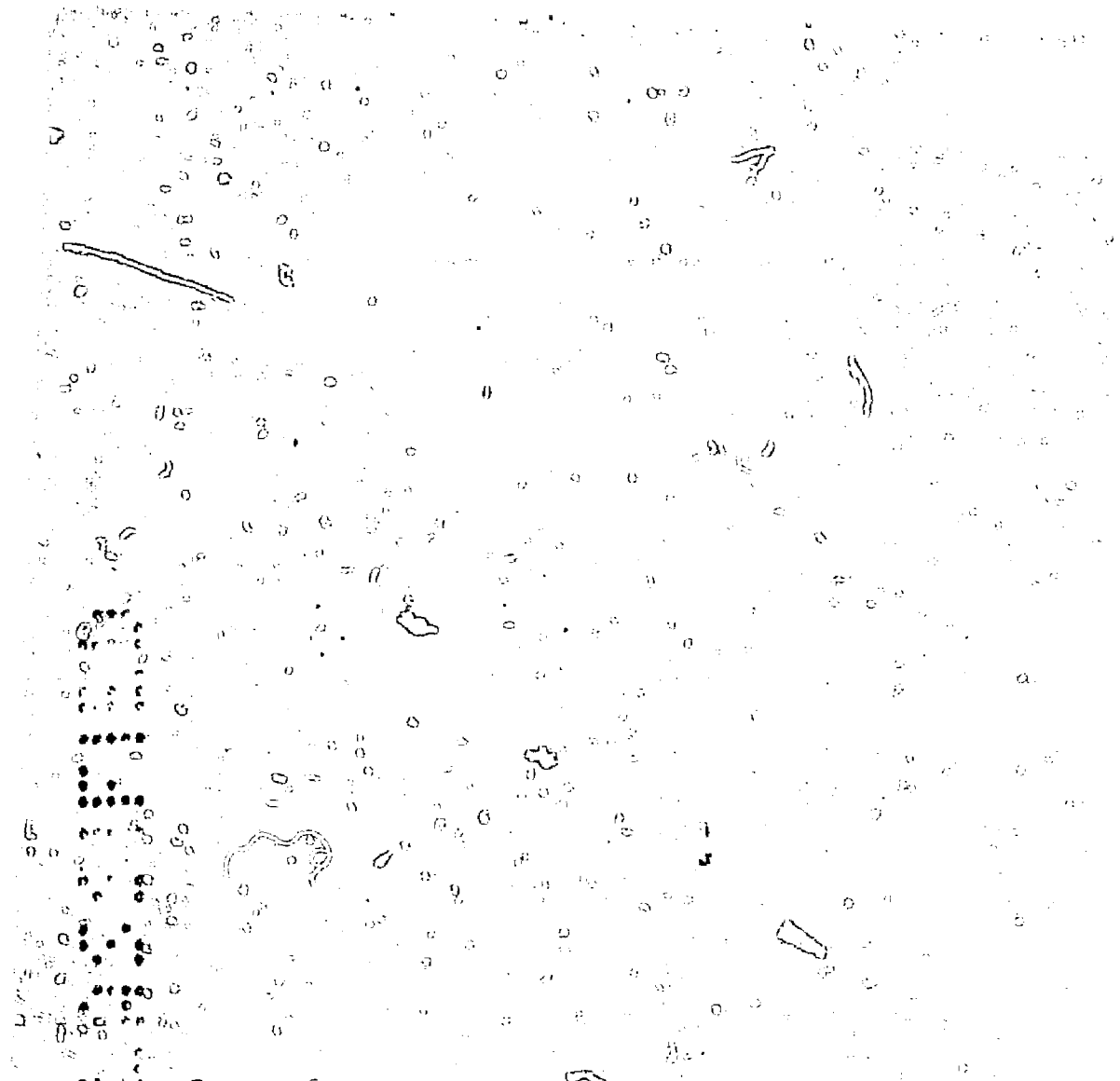
and usually only about two hours of sleep a night. The night before I interviewed him for more than an hour at the church, Jones had been up all night counseling a couple, after the husband had tried to stab his wife with a knife. (On March 25 the Chronicle ran a page-two story about how Jones had collapsed from exhaustion after a Housing Authority visit. He had not slept the previous night because he was counseling a suicidal drug addict going through withdrawal.)

"What keeps him going?" "Seeing human lives rehabilitated keeps me going," Jones replied. That's why he enjoys counseling so much and is willing to spend so much time at it. But at a deeper level, he asked, "Why

is an Ace, Jones was expressing in our conversation the same philosophy he talked about in his sermon. It is a familiar philosophy to me, one that I remember hearing preached in the Methodist church I was brought up in and at the theological seminary I attended for a year.

It is not a philosophy everyone agrees with, and certainly not all Christians agree that this interpretation of Jesus's teachings is the most valid one. But what's significant is that Jones apparently tries to practice his version of Christianity so thoroughly. He has made his share of enemies for the political stands he has taken and has received more than his share of threats from local Nazis and other right-wingers. But no one accuses





THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY GUARDIAN, MARCH 31, 1977

# Peoples Temple: Where activist politics meets old-fashioned charity

Temple, the form of this sermon was unconventional. It was already past 11 pm by the time the songs, dances and two readings (the Declaration of Independence and "We Beg your Pardon, America," a scathing indictment of Ford's pardon of Nixon) were completed. Although people had already been in the hall for 2 1/4 hours, nobody seemed interested in leaving. On the contrary, there was an air of excitement when Jones informally asked if there were any questions. At first I assumed this was some kind of audience-participation gimmick, but soon it became clear that this question-and-answer format was Jones's "sermon."

All the questions related to social issues: the Gary Gilmore execution, the Bakke suit on affirmative action college admission programs, crime in the streets. Jones's answers were similar in some ways to what might be expected from a liberal politician or an enlightened sociology professor. For instance, on capital punishment he said, "I think it's wrong for a society that wants to eliminate crime to kill people in such a brutal manner. It seems very wrong to help someone commit suicide." About Bakke: "Certainly something is owed the people who have spent 200 years being slaves and servants."

But his answers went beyond suggesting either a political solution to the issue or an interesting (and often radical) analysis of the problem. Jones emphasized the basic moral issues involved in the question, particularly as related to any injustice in the system, but invariably returned to his theme of the need for self-denying Christian love in approaching the problem.

Consider, for instance, his answer to a question asked by an older white woman: "What do you think is the number one problem with the American people today?" Jones immediately answered, "Apathy." Then, after think-

ing a moment longer, he added, "Everyone is worried about their own narcissistic problems."

Soon Jones warmed up to his main theme. He saw apathy as one of the major reasons why the CIA got away with giving money to support the despotic regimes in Iran and Chile and why the American criminal justice system punishes poor defendants severely and lets off the rich ones. At the same time, he saw signs of apathy in the rise of Nazism in this country and the possible rise of fascism as the economy gets worse.

He then personalized how he thinks people should fight against these injustices. "I am in this battle and I may be shot or put in jail," he said. Then he pointed out that many of this country's "working poor" are proceeding with materialistic illusions. But for Jones, "The way I keep myself straight is to live here in the Fillmore. I am at war with this system" that places greater values on material things than on human beings. He said he believed in the old cliché that "The love of money is the root of all evil." That is why, he said, he stays away from restaurants and luxurious surroundings. "I do not feel good about being in a restaurant when some people are not warm. The only thing I feel good about is work."

Does this mean he is acting out of guilt, he asked himself rhetorically? "I have a lot of guilt," was his response. "I have guilt to know my taxes have gone to the Shah of Iran and to Chile. Some people are not guilty at all about these things, and I sure do not want to end up like they are." As Jones concluded, most of the audience stood up and applauded and cheered.

Their response was indicative of the sort of charisma Jones conveyed. He isn't a polished orator. His voice has a distinctive Midwestern preacher's twang to it. But he speaks with great

intensity and conviction, and he is quite eloquent occasionally. But his magic with his own congregation seems to be two-fold; he speaks about the issues of political and economic injustice felt daily by the mostly poor and minority group, and they believe he practices what he preaches.

After Jones's sermon, a "seniors dance" was introduced, and more than a dozen older people, in their 60s, 70s, 80s and even 90s came up to the raised platform at the front of the church. They began to boogie to the jazz music played by a 68-year-old man at the piano. One 90-year-old man, who was almost completely blind, had to be helped from time to time to keep from tripping off the stage. Several younger people joined the old-timers, including a young white guy who looked like a vintage redneck. I must admit that this scene moved me deeply. During Jones's "sermon" I was writing in my notepad so furiously that I could not possibly get caught up in the emotion obviously shared by almost everyone else in the place. But seeing the old people dancing was too much. Where else in our society do old people get up to entertain younger people?

Peoples Temple's founder is as unusual and complex as the church is. Jones, who is part American Indian, was born 45 years ago into the desperate poverty of Depression-scattered rural Indiana. His father was a disabled war veteran who couldn't work, and Jones remembers how cold it often was in his family's unheated shack alongside a railroad track. He attended Indiana University and graduated from Butler University in Indianapolis with a teaching certificate, attended Cleveland Bible College and was ordained as a minister of the Disciples of Christ.

In addition to serving as a pastor of churches in and near Indianapolis, Jones was a nursing home director

and a missionary in 1961 and 1962 in Brazil, where he established programs for orphans. When he left Indianapolis for California in 1965, he had a church and worked as executive secretary of the Indianapolis Mayor's Commission on Human Rights.

During his time in Indianapolis, Jones also made enemies, largely because of his strong pro-integration views and actions. For example, he once entered a hospital there with acute appendicitis but, when he discovered the hospital was segregated, he refused to be operated on until the place was integrated. So, the story goes, Jones remained there for two days until the integration was accomplished. But what particularly infuriated some segregationists was his adoption of a black orphan, Jim Jones, Jr. Jones and his wife Marceline received numerous threats, and he decided to leave Indiana for the safety of his family.

They settled in the Redwood Valley of Mendocino County, near Ukiah, in 1965. Remarkably, about 130 members of Jones's Indianapolis church followed him to California, apparently without any urging from Jones. Soon the group was holding church services in Jim's garage, the beginnings of Peoples Temple. Jones worked as a school teacher, commuting some 60 miles a day. Almost all of the 130 people who followed Jones west are still here, connected with the church in Ukiah, San Francisco or Los Angeles.

Jones is a short, somewhat overweight man with straight, well-combed black hair. He often wears a clerical collar under a somewhat seedy looking jacket, in keeping with his practice of acquiring only secondhand clothes.

Jones's eyes are often hidden behind a pair of light-sensitive glasses that darken when hit with light. Though an energetic and fundamentally healthy person, his eyes reveal fatigue, the result of a grueling work schedule



The Rev. Jim Jones (left) and some scenes inside his church in San Francisco's Fillmore district: the day care center, the free meal service and the medical clinic.

# California's fastest-growing church feeds more people daily than St. Anthony's, sent 3,000 demonstrators to the I-Hotel and publishes the Bay Area's largest-circulation newspaper.

A practice of giving away hundreds of dollars annually to organizations or individuals the church considers to be doing significant work. In the past year these have included contributions for medical research (the medical associations for cancer, heart disease and sickle cell anemia); the Telegraph Hill Medical Clinic; SF Neighborhood Legal Assistance; the ACLU; the NAACP; the Freedom of Information Center; the Ecumenical Peace Institute; the Deane Banks defense fund; the United Farm Workers.

Major decisions are normally reached through open church business meetings, of which members are notified either by mail or through an elaborate telephone tree. That's how, for instance, the congregation decided to demonstrate last September in Fresno in support of the four Fresno Bee reporters and editors who had refused to disclose their sources to a judge. More than 1,000 people demonstrated, in the middle of the week, on an around-the-clock basis for several days at a time when nobody else, with the exception of a few editorial writers, seemed concerned enough to act on the issue. But emergency decisions can be made by the church board of 50 members, chosen to represent every age, race and sex in the congregation.

The church's annual budget, \$600,000 for all of its programs, is raised almost entirely through individual contributions of members. (For

comparison purposes, the 315-member Old First Presbyterian Church of SF has an annual budget of \$100,000—per capita, more than ten times Peoples Temple's.) The church receives no foundation or government grants and runs any of its programs. Jones is paid about \$20,000 a year, but this also covers his travel expenses and is shared with his family (he and his wife have adopted eight children of several races and have one son of their own). Jones lives in the Fillmore. In addition to Jones, there are only four paid staff members, all of whom receive subsistence pay and live in church-rented houses in the Fillmore. But there are hundreds of church members who donate most of their working hours to do volunteer work with one program or another.

In this respect, Peoples Temple resembles a cause or a social movement more than a normal church. And the church service I saw, likewise, resembled a Civil Rights rally with Martin Luther King in the South during the early Sixties. Soon after Jones arrived, indeed, the congregation sang the old movement standards, "Oh Freedom" and "We Shall Overcome."

Jones's message is that people should subordinate their personal desires in the service of their fellow human being for the greater good of humanity.

Jones delivered this message throughout his "sermon" the evening I was there. Like everything else at Peoples





Thurs., July 7, 1977

Oakland Tribune

# San Francisco

## Misfits Build New Life in Guyana

SAN FRANCISCO—A church which lives by the words of Matthew 25 is rehabilitating more than 100 Bay Area misfits and misfits on a tropical farm in South America.

To paraphrase Matthew the Misfit, who led the thirty seven men, the misfit church, the misfit and misfited men.

The people helped range from drug addicts to child molesters, implementers to doctors of almost any stripe.

The church, however, was not undertaking for psychological reasons, but to help find the meaning of the Christian religion in Guyana.

Guyana is a former British colony which received its independence in 1966. The problem then became how to feed, clothe and house its growing population.

Pastor Jim Jones of Peoples Temple (Church of Christ), 1600 Geary St., tries to live by the message of Matthew. For example, the San Francisco operation feeds 1,000 people a

day, gives medical treatment to 50 to 60 patients daily, offers free legal services, and craft training to persons seeking work.

In helping the Guyanese, the misfit church was seeking to help city youth with serious antisocial behavior problems. They are now busy with animal husbandry, livestock man-

agement, construction, mechanics, and the obvious first selling, farming.

The farm consists of several thousand acres being transformed from virgin jungle to lush agriculture and pasture land. Some 200 varieties of vegetables, fruits and nuts are being cultivated. Cattle, chickens and pigs are being raised.

The human crop—the rehabilitated—is even more diverse. The Rev. Mr. Jones felt it was worthwhile to try to break the vicious cycle of ex-convicts going back to prison.

"The ending of despair, violence and poverty that characterize the inner city is the objective," he said. "It is time for society to develop alternatives such as cooperative communities where young people have a chance to develop their talents."

The former hackers, thieves and drunks receive training, worthwhile jobs, and most important, a sense of accomplishment. Life there is kibbutz-style. The transplanted Bay Area misfits live in cottages and eat in a mess hall they built themselves from trees they felled to make room for crops.

An exhibit of the church and its work is scheduled for tomorrow afternoon at 1600 Geary St.

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# EDITORIALS

## Inside The Peoples Temple 'Expose'

New West magazine, which is the most recent acquisition of the Australian newspaper tycoon, Rupert Murdoch, who has added the New York Post and the New York Village Voice to his first U.S. publication, the National Star, publishes in its issue of Aug. 1 "Inside Peoples Temple," by Marshall Kilduff and Phil Tracy. This is the long-awaited expose of Rev. Jim Jones, "one of the state's most politically potent leaders...." Marshall Kilduff is a San Francisco Chronicle reporter, and Phil Tracy a New West contributing editor.

A review of this article reveals that Kilduff and Tracy have built their grant expose on the basis of interviews with several former members of Peoples Temple who, over the past several years, have conformed into the small yet articulate Former Members of the Peoples Temple congregation. This small band of former members seems to have been either disenchanted when their personal ambitions conflicted with the stated church programs, or individuals whose aggressive, illegal programs were rejected by the church membership and the church's leaders. Many of these disgruntled excommunicates have previously whispered their venom against Peoples Temple to all individual ears in the Western Addition that would pass long enough to listen. Several have even approached this newspaper with their stories and wild-eyed statements of misdeeds attributed to Jim Jones and his congregation. We have counseled these malcontents to seek redress of their alleged grievances against Peoples Temple and its leaders in a court of law. Moreover, whenever our investigators presented these statements to Jones and other leaders of the congregation, they have always made available for inventory church records dealing with these alleged misdeeds. Under probing, these allegations have been unsubstantiated by fact.

In the article by Kilduff and Tracy these malcontents, psychoneurotics, and, in some instances, provocateurs—probably establishment agents—have found willing ears and consummate skill to organize fragmented gossip into a sleek and dogger mosaic that portrays Jim Jones and Peoples Temple as a malevolent instrument destroying human personalities, robbing the poor, and engaged in a conspiracy against the established social and political order.

Word comes to us that the writers of this New West article did a two-hour taped interview with the Rev. Jim Jones, and nowhere in this lengthy tape did they use a word of it. Can it be that this article was written, "not to praise Caesar, but to bury Caesar"?

It is significant that Kilduff was unable to peddle his venom in the pages of his employer, the San Francisco Chronicle. If the rumors, half-truths, and mental verities of these former Peoples Temple members represent the best investigative reporting job that Kilduff and Tracy can do, then heaven help the fine art of investigative reporting! Moreover, if this "yellow" journalism is to be the forte of Rupert Murdoch in building his newly acquired U.S. journalism empire, this type of journalism-for-hire should clearly reveal to the U.S. public here in the West the plague that has descended upon us with Murdoch's recent ascent into the journalistic firmament.

Jim Jones and the Peoples Temple represent some of the most invigorating and challenging religious organizations to appear in California in recent years. Jones apparently is committed to the basic philosophy proclaimed to Christendom in Jesus of Nazareth's Sermon on the Mount. In attempting to use the moral force of Christianity in dealing with man-made problems that devour, haunt, and debilitate the social order, Jones has created a cyclone where formerly the political leaders, economic scoundrels, and even important religious leaders have failed the very foundations of their ethics, and their leadership has been rent, torn asunder, leaving these pompous pseudo-leaders naked and unclothed to be viewed as the hypocrites that they have been for decades.

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We have no intention of attempting to defend Rev. Jim Jones, the officers, and the members of the Peoples Temple. They are admirably equipped with keen legal minds, incisive economic advisers, dedicated and committed followers, to defend themselves.

However, we have been amazed at the tendency of political, social, and religious hangers-on to fix the Peoples Temple and Jones's establishment, once the venom of the New West article became the subject of treatment by all mass communications media—radio, television, and printed. In the 29 odd years of publication of the news embodied in the Reporter Publications, and the more than 30 years of active participation in the printing of a Black community newspaper by the present publisher, there has been no religious institution, to our knowledge, more dedicated to the use of the high moral, courageous commitments embodied in Christianity, which is a revolutionary religion, to carry out what has become the motto of the Reporter Publications: "Dedicated to the cause of the people—that no good cause shall lack a champion, and that evil shall not thrive unopposed."

We have from time to time investigated the complaints that persons have lodged against Peoples Temple. On the basis of repeated in-depth investigations, we say, as one with strong commitments to the rule of religion in the lives of men: We have found no fault with Jim Jones's religious philosophy or the activities of the Peoples Temple. We believe in the rule of law! We support the nation's judicial cornerstone, that ours is a nation of laws and not of men! We believe that thieves, rogues, and liars who destroy and soil worthy individuals' or institutions' reputations should be brought before the bar of justice! If there are those who feel aggrieved, as indicated by their alleged statements of the interviewees in the New West article, we urge those persons to charge the institution and the man with crimes, and let them face the accused in a court of law!

We also remind the honored Fourth Estate, which probably includes radio and television as well as the press, that accused in the U.S.A. are assumed innocent until their guilt is proved in a court of law. We hasten to remind the mass communications media that a free press is one of the cornerstones of a democratic society, yet freedom of the press demands of all who operate under this mantle that a prerequisite safeguarding freedom is the corollary demand—that the press must be responsible.

The reputation of a man and of an institution is a most valued possession in a society of free people. It has been said by many, especially Adlai Stevenson, "The people are wise—wiser than the politicians think." This might be amended: "The people are wise—wiser than the press thinks."

An institution that feeds the poor, houses the homeless, rescues young and old from the wretchedness and despair of drug addiction, marshals the political potential of a people, and husband the economic pittance of the poor masses into a powerful instrument for justice, freedom, and equality, while building a just and humane society, by its very nature will have many enemies hidden, lurking in the shadows of greed, ignorance, neurosis, and hallucinations. If such an institution becomes powerful, then it must expect its enemies to become powerful. While the New West article was intended to defame and to dismember and deter an increasing band of dedicated followers of Christian ethics, the great possibilities are there that the story will become, and that which they seek to destroy out of this momentary irritation will become a potent antidote to the hopelessness and the despair that permeate the masses. Such an airing of relative choices posing the question of right and wrong, hope and despair, exploitation of the many by the few, and the very questioning nature of the political process itself, may become a rallying banner for those who heretofore have seen no institution or no man worthy of their support and admiration; these newly enlightened individuals might recognize: All of the problems disturbing a distraught humanity basically are man-made problems. Surely many good men and women of courage, steadfastness, and fundamental belief in the power of the organized masses will see in Jim Jones and Peoples Temple not a comet that momentarily lights up the darkness, but another reminder of the meanings of Edmund Burke's prophetic words, uttered before the birth of the nation 200 years ago: "All that is necessary for evil in the world to triumph is for enough good men to do nothing."

Carlton S. Goodlett, Ph.D., M.D.  
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## Bishop Jim's followers thrive in jungle commune

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**GEORGETOWN, Guyana (UPI)** — About 100 followers of a self-styled San Francisco bishop started a multiracial agricultural commune three years ago in the jungles of this South American nation and according to all reports, they are thriving and prospering.

At Fort Kaituma in Guyana's North West District at the western end of the country about 100 persons — all U.S. citizens — have carved an agricultural pro-

ject from hundreds of acres of land formerly occupied by forest.

The architect of the project is Bishop Jim Jones of the People's Temple of San Francisco who visited the project recently to observe its progress and expressed satisfaction. The People's Temple was given land on lease by the Guyana government, which has given every cooperation.

The project was started about three years ago and now the settlers of all races are living in 41 completed homes constructed mostly by themselves. There is a plan to build another 100 houses during the next year.

Jones said his objective in Guyana is to join the government in helping to develop the country. He said he has invested over \$1 million in the project. Vegetable and fruit production has been abundant with trees and plants flourishing in what was once virgin land. The farm supplies food for the workers, who are now self-sufficient, the community of Port Kaituma and Matthew's Ridge while the surplus is sent to the capital, Georgetown.

The Fort Kaituma Commune has produced a new "cured" bean, which tastes like pork sausage. Their animal and poultry farm includes about 300 pigs and over 200 chickens. A large shallow water well with a capacity of 16,000 gallons supplements three smaller wells.

The problem of insect and pest control is also being tackled successfully. An underground cellar 15 by 120 feet has been dug for temperature control. In it grains are stored and beans and peas until the next harvest. Another innovation is the use of sea shells as fertilizers.

The Fort Kaituma commune residents are learning such skills as carpentry, electrical engineering, plumbing and printing. Adequate medical facilities are provided, but there is a plan to build a small hospital with modern facilities and an experienced staff to cater not only to settlers but the nearby communities.

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Patricia and Paul Butti, two children involved in Peoples Temple members' custody disputes, were reunited with their legal guardians Thursday afternoon.

Private investigator Joseph Mazar said he was put in contact with the children and their mother late Wednesday afternoon after a story on their case appeared in The Progress.

Mazor had charged the temple with concealing the whereabouts of the youngsters from their lawful guardians, charges that Temple attorney Charles Garry called "an outright lie."

"The mother has those children," Garry told The Progress Wednesday. "We told Mayor the mother had those children. They are with her right now out in the Mission District."

Garry said he did not have the mother's address.

Peoples Temple also denies responsibility for children who have reportedly been sent to the

church mission in Guyana, South America, without the consent of legal guardians.

"We (Rev. Jim Jones and the Peoples Temple) don't have anything to do with these children," Garry said. "How do we get involved? We are not the guardians of these children."

Literature put out under the Temple name refers repeatedly to temple foster homes and the temple rehabilitation center in Guyana.

Available evidence indicates that many if not all of the so-called temple homes were, in fact, licensed by individual temple members who often received state funds for their support.

Assistant District Attorney Dan Weinstein said parents or legal guardians who permitted their children to stay in the custody of either the temple or its members can petition to have such children returned from Guyana.

If the youngsters are

Continued on Page 2

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not sent home within a reasonable time, the parent / guardian could then ask the courts to order the children returned, Weinstein said.

Until and unless such a definite court order is violated, the temple practice of sending children to Guyana does not violate any criminal law, Weinstein said.

The authorities have no right to investigate conditions in Guyana unless children have been sent there by direct order of an official government agency, Weber said. He said the district attorney's office has no evidence that the courts have ever sent any children to the remote South American nation.

A Peoples Forum newspaper dated Aug. 1 states that some young people at the Peoples Temple agricultural

minutes in Oyster Bay were sent down by the radio.

We quote: "Kenny R. got into trouble with burglary. Juvenile hall dropped charges against him on the condition that he be sent overseas to the Tropic Islands." A picture of a teenager identified as Kenny Reid accompanied the story.

"Charles W. was probationed for three years on condition that he go to the Temple agriculture mission," the lawyer says.

The newspaper also makes reference to legal efforts on behalf of two adults identified as "Jerry L." and "Ruthie" who the temple says were "put on probation to the People's Temple agricultural mission in South America."

The Progress Inquiry  
into Guyana was

promoted, in part, by a  
 copy in letter sent to  
 Supervisor John J. [redacted]  
 by [redacted] [redacted]  
 member, [redacted] [redacted]  
 Church, it states.

"Many judges have even turned youthful offenders over to our program as an alternative to their going to prison. Our agricultural program in South Africa is currently producing a thousand chickens a month for distribution to the needy. We are also growing wheat, corn, and other

[illegible]

have been temple members since early childhood and their alleged criminal lifestyles would have had to be developed while they were under temple influence.

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Page 2  
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## Temple Trouble

In the poor-black Fillmore district of San Francisco, the Rev. Jim Jones is revered as a good Samaritan with patrons in ~~very~~ high places. As pastor of the People's Temple, one of the largest interfaith churches in California, Jones not only claims God's power to heal the sick but also wields palpable clout among city and state political leaders. The governor, lieutenant governor, mayor, sheriff and district attorney have all visited the temple and, during the 1976 Presidential campaign, Jones himself shared a platform with Rosalynn Carter. Last December, the charismatic preacher who can muster black voters was named chairman of the San Francisco Housing Authority Commission by Mayor George Moscone. But now Jones stands accused by 30 former temple members of building his power through fear, fraud, physical beatings, the appropriation of parishioners' property and possible misuse of government funds.

The accusations were published in two August issues of New West magazine, which called for an investigation of the temple's financial and disciplinary practices. Church representatives promptly denied the charges. But in a pair of surprise moves last week, Jones resigned from the Housing Authority and District Attorney Joseph Freitas announced that he would look into the accusations.

**Colony:** No one has yet filed a formal complaint against Jones, who temple officials said was unreachable at the church's 27,000-acre South American farm colony in Guyana. The city's most powerful politicians still seem solidly behind the controversial minister. Mayor Moscone has said he saw no evidence that Jones had broken any laws and, in a recent Sunday-morning sermon at the temple, black state Assemblyman Willie Brown labeled the attacks "a measure of [the church's] effectiveness."

Jones preaches a religious socialism that he himself, it appears, is the first to practice. His church, which claims 20,000 members statewide, sponsors a drug-rehabilitation program, a free restaurant and medical clinic and a legal-aid service. More radically, Jones encourages his flock to give up their private property and live in low-rent apartments leased by the church from the city. Jones and his wife live modestly above the temple, where they are raising a multiracial family of seven adopted children plus their own son. But his social activism also is expressed as politics, and on Election Day, the poor deliver for their leader. In two recent close races for

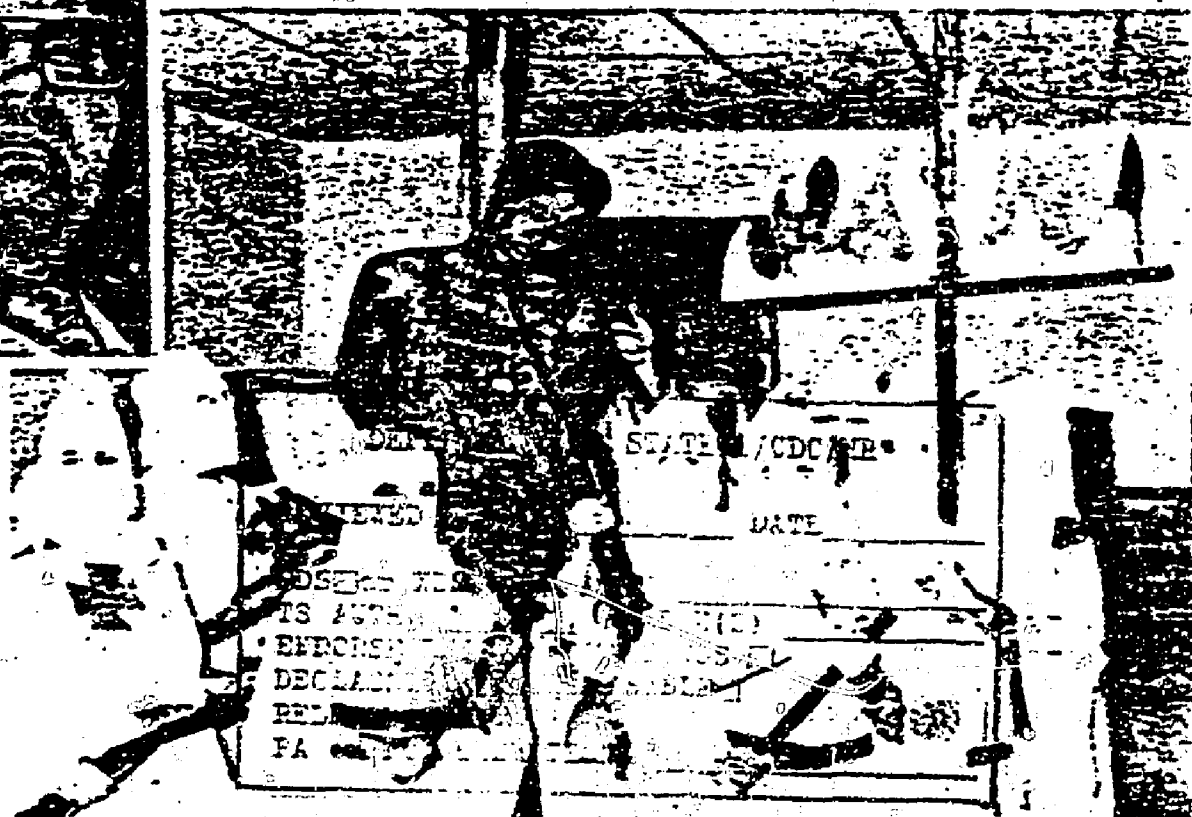
mayor and district attorney, Jones's regimented followers were considered important to the winners.

According to some former church members, however, Jones's power is based as much on fear and fraud as on faith. His services are often held behind locked doors, and even then Jones is protected by bodyguards. The breakaway parishioners described ritual beatings and humiliating group encounters held at all-night sessions. A former secretary to Jones reported that the preacher faked healings by displaying chicken guts as tissue he had miraculously removed from cancer patients. Others said they had been persuaded into handing over their houses to the church

cheta, 25, told how she and eleven other students slept in a crowded garage and were given a weekly dole of \$2 each as members of a temple commune. Touchette, who is white, said that Jones, who is part American Indian, told them "how ugly and horrible it was to be white," and "not to have sex because we were all latent homosexuals."

**KKK:** Laura Cornelius, 32, a black woman, said that Jones promised his followers a haven in Guyana when, as he predicted, Fascists took over the U.S. "He said they had a plan to exterminate blacks like they did the Jews," Cornelius recalled. She also described a ritual by temple members that dramatized a Ku Klux Klan lynching. "That's why people turned over all they had," she said. "He told us the whites would take it."

Others reported threats against their lives if they dared talk to police and said



Jones (inset). Klan drama: That's why people turned over all they had

and had been talked into giving the temple government funds they received for running foster-care homes.

When New West first considered investigating the People's Temple, the editors were barraged with pleas from politicians and businessmen to kill the story. When the editors persisted, some were harassed at home by anonymous callers. Meanwhile, other local newsmen reported similar coercion and only when word of the pressure campaign appeared in a local newspaper column did ex-members of the temple volunteer to tell of their experiences.

In separate interviews with Newsweek, former followers of Jones corroborated the New West report. Micki Tou-

cheta had been made to sign false confessions to crimes such as conspiracy against the government. "Jim always said he had an in with the police," said Deanna Myrtle, 38, "so we thought going to the police would be suicide."

Church officials have issued statements countering that some of the dissenters were terrorists and child molesters. Throughout the controversy, Jones has remained at the Guyana farm, which the church says it funds with \$150,000 annually. And some suspect that the Rev. Mr. Jones may be the first to take up permanent asylum in the Guyana haven.

—JENNIFER L. WOODWARD with MARK WENTZNER and STEPHEN GAYLE in San Francisco



## Stoen reacts to Grapevine article

# Ukiah weekly target of \$5 million lawsuit

By GEORGE HUNTER

Timothy Oliver "Tim" Stoen, former assistant district attorney for Mendocino County whose beliefs are closely linked to those of the Rev. Jim Jones, pastor of the Peoples Temple Church, is preparing to file a \$5-million lawsuit against the Mendocino Grapevine, a Ukiah weekly.

Stoen, who flew here last weekend from New York City to confer with Ukiah attorney Pat Finnegan, told the Daily Journal that he would also seek damages of some \$13 million from New West, a San Francisco bi-weekly magazine which has carried two "expose" articles relating to Peoples Temple and its pastor.

Stoen said that an article appearing in a recent issue of the Ukiah weekly had damaged his reputation. "I intend to practice law here in Ukiah and it is essential that I clear my name," Stoen said.

"I must show the world that a newspaper cannot wrongfully hurt innocent people without being brought to account."

Noting that he was prepared to do battle on all levels, Stoen said: "I'm a street fighter. People will come to appreciate that fact that I'm a street fighter."

"I feel like Alfred Dreyfus," Stoen said, referring to the French Army officer of the 19th century who was convicted by an Army court and imprisoned on Devil's Island for defending his religious beliefs.

"I'm experienced enough with our jury system to believe in it. I'll put my trust in the system," Stoen said.

Stoen reacted strongly to inferences that he was "afraid" of Rev. Jones. "I want to dispel that allegation," he said.

The former assistant district attorney also was sharply critical to charges that he had used his public

office to spy for Jones. "I've always made known my esteem for Jim Jones," he said. "I have nothing to hide and no one can show a single instance where I ever used my public office to show favoritism toward the church."

Stoen charged that the reporting of New West magazine was irresponsible in that the magazine article quoted the Mendocino Grapevine verbatim. Stoen said he would prove the statements to be untrue and malicious in motivation and that the Grapevine violated the newspaper canon of ethics, giving Stoen no chance to reply to the accusations.

The demands for retraction and damages will be contained in a complaint filed here. The suit against New West magazine will be filed in San Francisco.

Stoen was "loaned" to San Francisco city and county in 1973 to prosecute voter fraud after a large-scale scandal surfaced. Out of 39 indictments returned by the Grand jury, 37 con-

victions were obtained. Stoen was then asked by San Francisco District Attorney Joseph Freitas to accept the post of special prosecutor with a large staff of attorneys to fight organized crime and public corruption. Stoen accepted the post then resigned when he felt that he was needed in Guyana, a small South American country, to help Jones in establishing a communal-type center, Jonestown, for minorities and the underprivileged.

Stoen has established residence in Manhattan in order that he may be admitted to the New York State bar.

"Jones has helped me develop an empathy toward the persecuted," Stoen said. "I intend to develop a national law firm to help people who are persecuted, on some pretext, for their religious beliefs. Stoen said he was worried about "creeping totalitarianism" that left no room for dissent.

Stoen hopes to attract idealistic young attorneys to his organization.

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# Deputy DA tied to temple deal

By Tim McIlwain  
and Henry Dealey  
1977 San Francisco Chronicle

The San Francisco District Attorney's Office says it is turning over to the state attorney general a purported tape recording of a former deputy district attorney arranging a payment to an ex-member of Peoples Temple who claimed his name was forged on a property transfer document.

Private investigator Joseph M. Jones presented the tape Monday to Robert Graham, who is heading the district attorney's investigation into allegations that the temple kept its members and helped some out of property.

Other agencies also are investigating the church and its ex-attorney, former San Jose Mayor who resigned three weeks ago as chairman of the San Francisco Housing Authority.

Jones is reported to be at the temple's agricultural mission in the South American country of Guyana.

Graham was told that the December 1975 conversations were between ex-church member Marvin Selinsky and Timothy Stoen, a high-ranking temple member who has

—See Back Page, Col. 1

served as a deputy district attorney in Mendocino and San Francisco counties.

Mendocino County records show that Stoen, who then worked for the county, noticed a deed given to the church which purportedly was by Selinsky and his wife, Mary J. Jackie Selinsky.

But the Selinskys, now residents of South Carolina, have issued notarized statements that they never signed the document turning over their home and nine-tenths of an acre of land to the church.

Selinsky, who said he found the telephone conversations, identified the second voice as that of Stoen.

Graham said he could not confirm the identification, but said, "My investigator thinks it sounds like Stoen... There's certainly a possibility that it's Stoen."

After reviewing the tape, Graham said investigators determined it was made while Stoen was a deputy district attorney in Mendocino County, where he worked prior to San Francisco.

"We're turning it over to the state attorney general's office," Graham said.

The Mendocino County district attorney has received "hinted" in matters involving Tim Stoen, and turned over materials to the state Attorney General's office—and we're doing the same."

Stoen worked at the Mendocino County District Attorney's Office from 1965 through 1967, then again from about 1971 until May 1974, when he was hired by San Francisco Dist. Atty. Joseph Freitas to prosecute voter fraud cases here.

Stoen resigned last spring to do legal work for the temple in Guyana.

Stoen is involved in a custody battle with his wife over the couple's 5-year-old son, who has been in Guyana. There have been reports that Stoen left Guyana, but attempts to track him for comment were not successful.

Church member Clayton Garry said he doesn't know whether Stoen has returned to San Francisco, and said he is not representing Stoen.

According to Selinsky, Stoen, who claimed to represent the Selinskys, said he was a high-ranking temple member who had been in contact with Stoen following Selinsky's departure from the church. Selinsky said that he and his wife had never signed any property transfer documents and had never deposited money with the church.

The Selinskys' lawyer, who said he is a former member of the church, said Selinsky and his wife had agreed to pay him \$25,000 to get out of the church.

"At that time we didn't know if we were a trick or not," said Selinsky, who then was trying to get his 5-year-old son out of Guyana. "We just wanted to get out of there, we couldn't get our son back."

A copy of the tape was obtained by the district attorney's office.

The tape shows that the person on the tape said the person under discussion "was a trick."

The first recording begins with Selinsky asking a telephone operator in the district attorney's office for Stoen. He then says, "I want to talk to you about a matter." The operator responds, "Mr. Stoen, I'll get you through to him." Selinsky addresses the party who is talking to him as "Tim."

According to Selinsky, he called Stoen to arrange to sign a document acknowledging that the temple bought the property in question and was authorized to pay off the mortgage.

County records show the property transfer noticed by Stoen as a deed.

In the tape, the voice identified as Stoen said:

"Well, get yourself to our show, Marvin. As you know, you don't want to be arrested. See, it's illegal to accept a bribe. It's illegal to give a bribe."

Stoen said he is not a lawyer. Selinsky said he is.

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# Tape recordings tie deputy DA to Peoples Temple land deal

"Then it's not a bribe," was the reply. "This is a government legitimate transaction."

The Swinneys told the Examiner in telephone interviews that they gave an abstract of the deed to their Utah property to temple leader Archie Jones in 1973 when they were pressured to do so.

"We didn't think there was any danger of turning it into abstract chaos over because we hadn't signed anything," said Jackie Sorkin.

"We were more or less forced to give the property," said her husband.

Mazor said he knows the name of a temple member who did the alleged forgery and he knows the method used. He said the Swinney signatures were photocopied from temple membership cards, cut out, laid on the grant deed document and recycled.

The private investigator said a KKK member had dragged to three of his clients, then swamp members, to their aid and the swamp to effect the property transfer.

When the Swinarsky left the church in fall of 1975, they went to the Mendocino County Recorder's Office and, to their surprise, found their signatures on a grant deed recorded Sept. 22, 1975. The signatures had been notarized by Stoen in June 1973.

"When we got out, we wanted to put a stop on it because we had never signed anything," Summary explained.

The Swinneys said they confronted several members of the church council and demanded to see the original grant deed. But they said they were shown only photocopies, although the original supposedly had been returned to the church.

"We told them we wanted our money, and we threatened to take it to the attorney general," Swinney said. "They laughed and said they had people in their office."

"They said if it got past them  
and got to the Manhattan District  
Attorney's Office, they had this and  
it wouldn't get past him ... Now  
where did that leave us?"

called the "League of the United Nations" and has no right to set their hands on the United States. The United States is not a member of the League of the United Nations and has no right to set their hands on the United States. The United States is not a member of the League of the United Nations and has no right to set their hands on the United States.

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These 37,000 were taken into  
self-imposed bonds of their United  
bond in August 1974, and delivered  
for a first year with a price of  
\$25.00 was agreed upon.

"I didn't sort out at \$11,000," Swinney recalled. "He started out by offering something like \$2,000 to \$3,000 cash and promised to send the rest later."

"We knew him well enough so we knew that if we got out, we wouldn't see the rest of the money. We kept haggling with him over it and ended up with \$20,000 (cash) and a promise of \$1,000 later." They said they never received the \$1,000.

The Swinnerys said they purchased the property in 1935 for \$22,000 to \$23,000 and they estimated its worth at about \$25,000 in 1973. Mendocino County records show the property was sold for about \$22,000 this year.

The family sold they had given everything they owned to the church and needed the money to move far away from temple headquarters, as they were advised to do by the church.

According to private investigation for Zinner, the money was to be given to the Swimmers only when they left town. The tape bears this out.

"It's my understanding that you were told that you would have it on your way out, which would be, you know, what you're packed and ready to go," the voice identified as Susan told Swinney.

"Therefore, I can't make a promise to pay you anything until you're in that situation."

There is also reference in the tape to the misunderstanding over whether the payment was to be for \$200 or \$2,000.

"The year following to Steven said, 'The first thing I called you in and offered you my. I had no pre-arranged plan, but I must have called me up and said give you them - for sure? And I thought it was over, and so I wrote up - that was that is, he knew you wanted to take money and had enough to start with."

According to the report, the water identified as being the "prolonged" agreement would be a "prolonged" graph movement and the "water" bought the property and the "water" had to pay off the "prolonged" the

3. During mid-1944, with only \$250,000, they signed the agreement on Dec. 22, 1944 — the same day they said they received \$250,000 cash.

The voice identified as being  
assured Swainson that the agreement  
was for Swainson's protection. "I  
hardly could say that there was any  
proof stronger than that I heard."

THEY WERE ALSO ASSURED THAT  
THAT JAMES HAD NEVER BEEN IN  
CONTACT WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF  
THE GROUP. THAT THE FBI'S  
CONCERN WAS FOR THE  
SAFETY OF THE GROUP.

Shirley and Homer with the  
and delivery was made by various  
church members.

Minor said he planned to give the attorney general this week with hope - clearings of alleged suspicious threats the Swinnys received prior to making the arrangement.

The California Secretary of State's Office is investigating the Swamy property transaction, as well as possible pattern of activity present by single members in property transaction to the church, and partnership agreements.

Mendocino County Dist. Atty. Samuel James said Stone worked as a criminal investigator during his first stint with the office under a different district attorney, but he said Stone only worked for him on civil litigation.

"This day of the future legal  
system is a building under construction  
and a great work."

# Church commune is prospering in Guyana

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (UPI) — About 100 members of a self-sufficient San Francisco Temple started a communal agricultural commune three years ago in the jungle of this South American nation, and according to all reports they are thriving and prospering.

An American newspaper in Guyana's North West District at the moment and of the colony issued two periods — all U.S. citizens have served in the agricultural project from hundreds of acres of land formerly occupied by forest.

The architect of the project is Bishop Jack Jones of the People's Temple of San Francisco. He said the project really is doing as predicted and expressed satisfaction. The People's Temple was given land on which to build a government, which has given every cooperation.

The project, said Bishop Jones, three years ago had now the members of all races are living in a commune. Jones constructed himself by themselves. There is a plan to build another 100 houses during the next year.

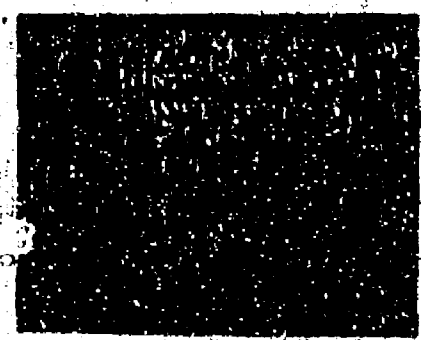
Jones said his objective in Guyana is to join the government in helping to develop the country. He said he had invested over \$1 million in the project. Vegetables and fruit production has been abundant with "irons" and plants returning to what was once virgin land. The farm supplies food for the members, who are now "self-sufficient." The community of Port Kaituma and Maituma is large while the surplus is sent to the capital.

Georgetown, Guyana (UPI) — The Port Kaituma Commune has produced a new "canned" food with added vitamins. The commune's members are also raising chickens and pigs in a large shed.

The commune has a large shed with a capacity of 10,000 gallons supplemented by a large pond. The commune is also raising chickens and pigs in a large shed. The commune is also raising chickens and pigs in a large shed.

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# PEOPLES TEMPLE

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## OPEN LETTER TO MEMBERS OF THE U. S. HOUSE, SENATE AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

The Peoples Temple Agricultural Project, Jonestown, in Guyana, South America, has been highly acclaimed the past year by a wide range of officials and professionals who have visited, as well as numerous relatives of persons residing on the Project—people who are in no way affiliated with the Peoples Temple Christian Church, but are enthusiastic about the vanguard cooperative where their loved ones have chosen to build a new life.

Enclosed is a new brochure, "...A Feeling of Freedom...", which was compiled from photographs of members of the Project, and scores of on-site commentaries, both from residents and visitors. Visitors have been amazed at the very high quality of life that has been attainable there, a virtually modern town hewn out of a dense jungle. A hospital is being planned, and the fully-equipped medical clinic is already staffed with medical personnel representing many specialties.

Though distorted and sensational news coverage has given the Temple membership a distrust toward certain elements in the media, the Temple has been making a concerted effort to invite objective representatives of the U. S. media to see the Project firsthand and speak with residents. Various journalists and free-lancers who write for papers including the San Francisco Chronicle and Examiner, the New York Times and the San Francisco Sun-Reporter, have been invited as well as the television media, such as KTVU—Oakland, California. All of those invited have expressed interest, but none have been able to make it so far.

Jonestown, of course, is attracting a great deal of attention for its agricultural work, which is contributing significantly to developing methods of producing food in newly cleared jungle areas. We are proud to help build international goodwill in this unique manner, and are open to inquiries from our government, the United Nations, and other interested parties. Hopefully, it will soon be possible to have more documentation of the Project through media representatives.

Sincerely yours,

MEMBERS OF PEOPLES TEMPLE

P. O. Box 15023, San Francisco, California 94115

Phone (415) 921-9654

And then, in 1870, he received the lasting consolation. He found "This is not strange work. I've got a great deal of it as a day-laborer. Several neighbors help. I saw this was my chance. I took it."



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# THE MEDICINO GRAPPLING

## Jonestown: The Peoples Temple in Guyana

There are many people of a better kind from Guyana, who are really willing to help the people of the Peoples Temple at the site of the church's agricultural project in the jungle of Guyana.

The author is a teacher, writer, and social worker and the article was submitted to the Peoples Temple by the Peoples Temple. The author had no involvement in Jonestown.

The road into Jonestown is lined with long rows of houses and other buildings on either side. The whole village of Jonestown is built on a hillside.

Brightly colored umbrellas, some standing yellow against the brilliant green, make points of color in the landscape. The houses are built on a hillside, and the whole village is built on a hillside.

I was amazed by the emotional experience of many, as I had never before and even had that warm married by church of the people of Jonestown.

I felt as if the more I looked, the more I felt. The houses were built on a hillside, and the whole village is built on a hillside.

When I arrived at the Peoples Temple, I was greeted by hundreds of people. It was an overwhelming experience to be there. The houses were built on a hillside, and the whole village is built on a hillside.

In Jonestown itself, the city is a new way of life. One is so used to many so-called necessities that

they probably find our substance that

is a natural environment free of pollution, you may be grateful for the fact that the city is a way to the new life. The houses were built on a hillside, and the whole village is built on a hillside.

The Peoples Temple is a place of peace and love. The houses were built on a hillside, and the whole village is built on a hillside.

At first, I was very nervous. The houses were built on a hillside, and the whole village is built on a hillside.

It is a place of peace and love. The houses were built on a hillside, and the whole village is built on a hillside.

And yet, it is a place of peace and love. The houses were built on a hillside, and the whole village is built on a hillside.

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their children live and work, then many political movements are being made, and it is important to be designed to meet human needs and for the nations possible.

The majority is such a project... babies have either where they are not each other and communicate with each other. The author is a teacher, writer, and social worker and the article was submitted to the Peoples Temple by the Peoples Temple. The author had no involvement in Jonestown.

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There is not a materialistic life, in terms of all the human and economic applications one might be used to in the United States.

That everything which is needed in the society of Jonestown is in the society of Jonestown.

It is a place of peace and love. The houses were built on a hillside, and the whole village is built on a hillside.

And yet, it is a place of peace and love. The houses were built on a hillside, and the whole village is built on a hillside.

There are many people of a better kind from Guyana, who are really willing to help the people of the Peoples Temple at the site of the church's agricultural project in the jungle of Guyana.

The Peoples Temple is a place of peace and love. The houses were built on a hillside, and the whole village is built on a hillside.

At first, I was very nervous. The houses were built on a hillside, and the whole village is built on a hillside.

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SCS custody case

## Parents awarded custody

# Jones temple asked to return child

By Tim Rotherman

Former deputy district attorney Timothy Stoen and his separated wife have been awarded custody of their 3-year-old son and are calling upon the Rev. Jim Jones to return the child from the Peoples Temple agricultural mission in Guyana.

Stoen, a former high ranking temple member said yesterday that he decided to join forces with his wife in the complex custody battle because he received information that their son, John Victor Stoen, was being turned against his mother.

Though they have been separated, the couple appeared before Superior Court Judge Frank G. Finnegan in San Francisco and agreed that Stoen's wife Grace would have physical custody of the boy, that Stoen would share legal custody and that Stoen would have visitation rights.

The judge also ruled that Jones, who joined as a party of interest in the custody fight, had failed to appear as ordered although he had been properly served.

"This means the Jones is required to give up the child immediately," said Grace Stoen's attorney, Jeff Hane.

The question remains whether Guyanese courts will recognize the United States court order.

To the attorney Charles Garry

to respond to the court action and the Stoen's request for return of the child. He said Jones previously has taken the position that he intends to keep the child.

Temple member Joyce Touchette has filed papers with the Guyanese courts alleging that Mrs. Stoen was an unfit mother and had given her power of attorney and permission to take the child to Guyana.

But Grace, 37, and Tim, 40, have revoked any alleged powers of attorney given to Touchette or Jones. And Stoen testified that his wife was an "excellent mother."

In a letter dated Nov. 17, Stoen told Jones "I have received reliable information to the effect that Grace is being seriously threatened in John's eyes. Not only is this deeply offensive to me, but it could easily cause irreparable emotional harm to John."

"I ask you to immediately reverse the hate campaign and to advise John repeatedly what you and I both know to be true—that Grace loves him deeply and has never abandoned him."

Hane said he will consider contempt proceedings against Jones if the child is not returned by a Nov. 20 deadline in the letter. "That child now is supposed to be with Grace, and anyone who withholds the child is in defiance of a court order."

Added Stoen, "I made a prom-

ise back with Grace by Jan. 1. I will personally go down and get him if Jim refuses to cooperate."

He said, "This puts me on a collision course with a man I was so fiercely loyal to. But I'm doing it because it's right."

Stoen is a former Mendocino County deputy district attorney who came to the San Francisco District Attorney's office in 1976 to prosecute voter fraud cases.

He left the San Francisco post earlier this year to devote his efforts to the church mission in South America.

"I left the church because I didn't like the authoritarianism for myself," he said. "I quit in March... Then Jim begged me to come back because he said I was needed at the mission. I finally left again June 5. I felt that John was being well cared for there at the time."

In 1969, Grace and Tim joined the temple and were married by Jones in Redwood Valley, near Ukiah. They became members of the church hierarchy.

Grace said in an earlier interview that beatings of church members prompted her to leave in 1975. The last time she saw her son was in September 1976 in Los Angeles when her husband and Jones refused to give up the child.

Her attorney flew to Guyana with a court order giving her temporary custody last September, but his efforts to find Jones and the





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# Guyana Chronicle

735

[The following editorial comment appeared in a December, 1977 issue of the Guyana Chronicle. It was authored by Dental Surgeon Dr. Ng-a-Fook who spent several inspiring days at Jonestown.]

## COMMENT

### Peoples Temple: A First Class Example Of Community Life

People in the Northwest District are much happier today because of the visit to the settlements of Port Kaituma and Matthews Ridge by Dental Surgeon Ng-a-Fook. During his three day visit he saw first hand a happy blending of races at Jonestown, the Christian Temple center at Kaituma, which he said is "a first-class example of community life." He did extractions, fillings, etc., at Port Kaituma and Matthews Ridge. Some 800 people, all members of the Peoples Temple, are living at the giant agricultural project at Jonestown, aimed at helping Guyana with farming, while also helping make Jonestown self-sufficient in food and housing.

At the area known as Jonestown, the Pastor and founder, the Rev. Jim Jones, has come under fire from reactionary forces in the U.S.A., who see the prosperous agricultural project and the communal life enjoyed by its members there, as a threat to the old established order.

But more and more the evidence is coming to light in support of the Peoples Temple and its very human activities at Jonestown. A very high elected California State Official who visited Jonestown, has described the Peoples Temple organization as "the most significant force today in the area of human rights, social change, and concrete service work." An American attorney, Charles Garry, who visited Jonestown recently in November 6, told the Sun Reporter on his return to the United States, "I have been in Paradise. I saw a community where there is no such thing as racism. No one sees the color of his skin, whether he is black, brown, yellow, red or white. I also saw that no one thinks in terms of sex, no one feels superior to anyone else. I don't know any community in the world today that has been able to solve the problems of man - sex supremacy. That does not exist in Jonestown."

level of medical care in Jonestown. Right at the moment there is no dentist, but it was to this need that Dr. Ng-a-Fook undertook his charitable mission there. "It was a very rewarding experience," he said. "I have never before seen so many people of varying races working happily side-by-side in the fields without a single spark of friction. With its own school, sawmill, electricity, roads, houses, and so on, all being scrupulously clean, I could not help but be impressed." Doctor Ng-a-Fook, who once turned in his U.S. land and immigrant visa at the suggestion of Cdr. Malcolm, in order to serve the needs of the people of Guyana and has since been working there for 18 years, visited the Northwest as part of a promise he made to his father, the late pioneer frontiersman Peter Ng-a-Fook, who performed his charitable work helping the people in mining and rural areas.

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Thurs., June 9, 1977 \* S.F. EXAMINER

## Guy Wright



### Fresh start in a jungle for The City's misfits

They cut a road seven miles into the South American rain forest and then made a clearing. Today if you visit that clearing in the jungle you will find a little band of misfits from the streets of San Francisco trying to start a new life.

You'll find a purse snatcher feeding pigs, a shoplifter hoarding corn, a transvestite driving a tractor, a prostitute and a couple of dope addicts in the sewing shed making their own clothes.

They are succeeding remarkably well, according to the Rev. Jim Jones, pastor of Peoples Temple on Geary Street and originator of this unusual experiment in human salvage.

"What I see is turning me into an environmental determinist," he said. "We take incorrigibles — people no one could handle. Down there they straighten themselves out. I don't know the explanation. With the dramatic change in environment comes a dramatic change in the person."

Life there is kibbutz-style. The transplanted San Franciscans live in cottages and eat in a mess hall that they built themselves — built with lumber from the purpleheart trees they felled to make the clearing and

then cut into boards with a sawmill they had brought along.

Three years ago the first contingent arrived. Now they have a septic tank sewage system, machine shop, school, church, rec hall. They grow corn, cassava, papaya, coconut. They raise pigs, 5,000 chickens and are introducing cattle.

"Everyone works but no one is forced," Jones said. "Pretty soon after they arrive the work ethic just makes a comeback. No one is forced to stay either. But not one person has requested to come home."

By no means have the exiles consigned themselves to jungle rot. They are cooled by the trade wind, and at night a blanket feels good. They can visit a nearby town, and some boys date native girls. By ham radio they maintain contact with the Peoples Temple here, which also sends them cassettes of selected TV shows.

Jones refers to the jungle outpost simply as "the agricultural project," which is how it began. Two years as a missionary in Brazil gave him a two-fold idea.

Just north of Brazil is the little nation of Guyana, once a British plantation colony. Jones persuaded the Guyana government to let him start a model farm to show the advantages of multi-crop agriculture in the tropics. He also wanted to use the farm as a haven where San Francisco's misfits could get away from their problems. Guyanese officials were dubious, at first, but Pastor Jones is a persuasive man.

Today there are 130 problem people on the model farm and a staff of 21. The staff, which includes nine teachers, was recruited from career people who felt something was missing from their lives. The father figure was a high powered insurance executive. An MIT man handles engineering. A Baptist minister, at 103, is starting a new career.

The problem people, besides the usual losers from the street, include the embittered son of a CIA agent, a school arsonist, a boy who cuts off cats' heads and, the youngest, a 3-year-old rated as a genius and a sociopath.

Despite the claims of near-perfect success, no one has been sent home as rehabilitated. Jones doesn't see that as necessarily how the story ends. "We don't tell people their time is up," he said. "They are free to stay as long as they feel they should be there."

He told about a new arrival who woke up to the tropic dawn, the song of exotic birds, the soft kiss of the trade wind. The young man threw out his arms and shouted, "Man, the Pillory has seen the last of me."



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**Associated Press**

# TEMPLE RADIO MAKES FRIENDS WORLD-WIDE

THE SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE, Thursday, February 22, 1978

## Peoples Temple Takes To The Air

Rev. Jim Jones, at the Peoples Temple Agricultural Project in Guyana, South America, has initiated a remarkable new project using the temple's own radio. In just the last few weeks Rev. Jones and a crew of experienced radio operators have made more than 2,000 contacts of friendship and goodwill, to him radio operators throughout the United States and in other countries.

The purpose of the contacts is to strengthen friendly ties between the United States and Guyana and support Carter's Administration in furnishing needed economic assistance to this newly emerged nation, which is a leader in the Caribbean area of the hemisphere.

Jones has spearheaded this new effort with great energy and persistence. "Radio operators can make wonderful ambassadors," he notes, and "the response has been amazing." The temple has been deeply gratified to find a widespread understanding of the need for nonintervention, mutual confidence, and aid to America's neighbors to the south.

The agricultural project was begun four years ago, for the joint purpose of providing a

wholesome alternative lifestyle for troubled young persons and to produce food and agricultural technology that can help solve world food problems. The radio is being used extensively as an extension of these humanitarian efforts. Many times the temple has been able to relay requests for medical assistance and other needed help.

One situation involved a child in a neighboring country, who was critically ill and needed a

medication that could not be obtained there. Rev. Jones had hundreds of contacts made over the radio, over an area ranging thousands of miles, until the rare medication could be located.

Another remarkable set of contacts involved the delivery of a baby in Jonestown by the doctor there. The baby was a breech birth, and the mother was hemorrhaging. Eleven doctors were called in for consultation over the radio.

The medical complications were handled in an expert manner, and both mother and child are doing very well.

Copies of radio identification numbers the temple has contacted from its Guyanese station are being forwarded to President Carter and many U.S. congressional representatives. The temple is proud to do its part in furthering goodwill for the United States in this part of the world. It has made known its support for the Guyanese policy of nonalignment.

8 San Francisco Chronicle Sat., Feb. 18, 1978

### Long-Distance Caesarean

Washington

Dr. Albert Greenfield helped deliver twins by Caesarean section this week, although the patient was more than 2000 miles away in a village in the jungles of Guyana.

Greenfield, an obstetrician, was at home in suburban Bethesda, Md., on Monday night when a neighbor, who is a ham radio operator, said a doctor at the Mission Village clinic in Guyana needed help because a storm prevented the women from being flown to a hospital. The two doctors began the long-distance consultation. Greenfield said the next day he was told the mother and babies were doing well.

Associated Press

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# A POTOMAC DOCTOR HELPS DELIVER TWINS 2,000 MILES AWAY



RICHARD HAYMAN

By Mary Ann Kuhn  
Washington Star Staff Writer

Dr. Albert A. Greenfield, an obstetrician, was about to retire for the night. He sat in his pajamas in a small room off his bedroom in Potomac, flipping through a medical journal on pediatric and adolescent gynecology.

Two blocks away, his friend, Richard W. Hayman, was turning the dial of his ham radio. He had just been talking to someone in Japan because he is planning a trip there in May.

More than 2,000 thousand miles away in the jungles of Guyana, a country in the northeast corner of South America, a woman two weeks overdue in her seventh pregnancy had been in labor more than 14 hours and was experiencing serious complications.

She couldn't be flown to the nearest hospital, one hour away, because a storm and ground fog prevented planes from taking off at the small airstrip seven miles away. The field is illuminated only by kerosene lamps.

IN THE NEXT few moments, the lives of the Maryland man and the Guyana woman became involved in an unusual medical drama. By the time it was over, the Potomac man had played a major role in the woman's delivery of identical twin girls, one weighing 6 pounds 4 ounces, the other 6 pounds 2 ounces.

At 10 o'clock Monday night, as Hayman was fiddling with the dial on his ham radio in his home at 3008 Colebrook Ave., he picked up an emergency call.

"I heard a doctor on one of the stations with an urgent plea to be connected with an obstetrician," said Hayman, who is vice president of

Hayman Cash Register Co. "He had a woman in South America who was expecting twins. I responded because I felt I could contact an obstetrician."

"I called Dr. Greenfield and I told him I had a medical mission in South America and a pregnant woman who needed medical advice," he said in an interview yesterday. "I asked him if he would help out."

For the next 45 minutes, Greenfield, 48, talked from the phone in his home at 2 Colebrook Court to the doctor in Guyana, giving him instructions on how to perform a Cesarean section on the woman. By using a special apparatus, Hayman was able to "patch" Greenfield's telephone into his ham radio so that the two doctors could carry on a two-way conversation.

WHILE GREENFIELD talked, thousands of ham radio operators here and in other parts of the country tuned in and listened.

One man said that after listening to the instructions he personally thought he could perform the surgery, said Hayman, who has been a ham operator for 20 years. His call letters are KIDMI.

"The doctor in the jungle had made a diagnosis of twins by placing his hands on the woman's abdomen," said Greenfield.

"One of the twins was in a head down or vertex position and the other was in a breech or bottom down position."

"I talked him through the entire operation," said Greenfield, an obstetrician for the past 12 years. "I sure was nervous. I wanted to be sure I gave him every detail. I was oversimplifying things."

"After each detail, I'd say, 'Do you follow me?' and he'd say either 'Yes, go on to the next step,' or he'd say, 'Could you repeat that?'"

BY 11 P.M. MONDAY, Greenfield had finished giving instructions for the delivery as well as post-operative orders.

"That was a first for me," said the doctor. "That was the longest-distance consultation I ever had. It was a very novel and thrilling experience."

"We were waiting on pins and needles to hear from the doctor in Guyana."

"Al" (Dr. Greenfield) expressed doubt to me personally whether any of them — the mother and twins —

would survive," said Hayman.

On Tuesday night, almost 24 hours later, Hayman and Greenfield called the doctor to find out the results of the operation. Because he was out on another medical emergency, the two Potomac men talked to a woman ham operator there who told them the operation had been successful. She also told them that the facility where the operation took place was called Mission Village in northwest Guyana. It has a medical clinic, an orphanage and an agricultural project, where most of the people are U.S. volunteers. She identified the man who performed the Cesarean as Dr. Larry Schacht.

"THE OPERATION was very successful, thanks to your help," the woman operator said in a taped recording of the radio conversation which Hayman made.

"This is Dr. Greenfield," said the doctor. "How is the mother?"

"The mother is doing fine," said the woman. "She lost about two pints of blood and she is a little weak, but doing very well. And the babies are extremely healthy."

"Have the babies' lungs been listened to and if so are they clear?" asked Greenfield.

"Roger."

"Were there any mechanical problems doing the actual procedure?" asked Greenfield.

"The procedure was very well thanks to your clear explanation and outlining of the procedure. It went very well. Everybody just followed your blueprint and everything went just fine."

"This is Doctor Greenfield again. I forgot what I was going to say...."



DR. ALBERT GREENFIELD

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Santa Rosa, Calif., Wednesday, April 12, 1978



Steven Katsaris and Howard Oliver deliver petition to Temple pastor

—Joe Price Jr.

# Peoples Temple in Guyana is 'prison,' relatives say

By BOB KLOSE  
Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — "Concerned Relatives," a group of Northern Californians with relatives living on the South American agricultural mission of the controversial Peoples Temple Church, Tuesday charged their loved ones are being held captive, possibly under threat of death, by Rev. James Jones.

A long list of accusations, signed by 25 relatives of 37 residents of "Jonestown" in Guyana, was delivered to the Peoples Temple head-quarters here.

The group, whose charges were documented by sworn affidavits from at least one former member of the agricultural mission and the

Ukiah father of a current mission resident, demanded Jones allow their relatives a one-week visit home at the group's expense.

The group Tuesday said the visit would allow church members to decide freely whether to return to Guyana. If they choose to go back to Guyana, the relatives said they will not interfere.

Peoples Temple spokesman Sandra Ingram today said the accusations are "malicious lies."

"We are looking into suing," she told The Press Democrat. "Those people have talked to their relatives. This is simple harassment."

Ingram cited a purported report by the U.S. Embassy in Guyana which she claimed said: "People

are very happy and want to remain in Guyana."

Ingram criticized the group for its tactics and urged no mention of them in the press.

"We do not speak for individuals. Maybe those in the petition do. We do not believe in this kind of dictatorship. We're very concerned that nothing be printed in the press until the whole side of the story is given," she said.

The group Tuesday was led by Steven Katsaris, Ukiah, and Howard Oliver, San Francisco. Katsaris has a daughter in Guyana and Oliver two sons.

Katsaris, director of the Trinity School for children in Mendocino

(Continued on Page 15A)

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# Peoples Temple in Guyana is 'prison,' relatives say

(Continued from Page 1)

County, said the group would "employ every legal and diplomatic avenue open to us" to force Rev. Jones to comply with the demands.

Katsaris and about 30 persons, most from the Bay Area and many former members of the church, delivered the demands to an associate pastor who was working a parking lot and storage yard at the rear of the building on Geary Boulevard in San Francisco. Repeated attempts to communicate with church officials at the front entrance failed, although officials watched from Temple windows as Katsaris passed the documents through a chain link fence to church workers.

The introduction to the document said:

"We, the undersigned, are grief-stricken parents and relatives of the ... persons you arranged to be transported to Guyana ... We are advised there are not telephones or exit roads from Jonestown, and that you now have more than 1,000 U.S. citizens living with you there.

"We have allowed nine months to pass since you left the United States in June 1977. Although certain of us knew it would do no good to wait before making a group protest, others of us were willing to wait to see whether you would in fact respect the fundamental freedoms and dignity of our children and family members in Jonestown.

"Sadly, your conduct over the past year has shown such a flagrant and cruel disregard for human rights that we have no choice as responsible people but to make this public accusation and to demand the immediate elimination of these outrageous abuses."

The charges said alleged conduct by Jones violates the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations in 1948, and the constitutions of the U.S. and Republic of Guyana.

Jones is accused of using physical intimidation and psychological coercion as part of a mind-programming campaign against mission residents; prohibiting members from leaving Guyana; depriving them

their rights to privacy, free speech and freedom of association; and making a threat designed to cause relatives to fear for the lives of mission residents.

The charges allege Jones prohibits telephone calls and contact with "outsiders," censors all mail, prevents residents from seeing relatives who travel to Guyana and exerts the silence of relatives in the U.S. by threats to stop all communications.

The specter of death is raised by the group using Jones' own words. The group said a letter Jones sent last month sent to members of the Senate and House ended with a "chilling threat."

"It is equally evident that people cannot forever be continually harassed and beleaguered by such tactics without seeking alternatives that have been prevented. I can say without hesitation that we are devoted to a decision that it is better even to die than to be constantly harassed from one continent to the next," Jones' letter is quoted as saying.

"We frankly do not know if you have become so corrupted by power that you would actually allow a collective "decision" to die, or whether your letter is simply a bluff designed to deter investigations into your practices," the group's charges said Tuesday.

The group demanded Jones clarify the "decision" to choose death over harassment.

Adding credence to their concern was a sworn statement by Yolanda D. A. Crawford, San Francisco, who spent three months in Guyana last year.

"Jim Jones prior to June said that people would be coming to live in Guyana for a temporary period of time. In June Jim Jones stated that the people he brings over from the United States will be staying in Guyana 'permanently,'" Crawford's statement said.

"Jim Jones said that nobody will be permitted to leave Jonestown and that he was going to keep guards stationed around Jonestown to keep anybody from leaving. He said that he had guns and that if

anyone tries to leave they will be killed and their bodies will be left in the jungle and 'we can say that we don't know what happened to you,'" she said.

Crawford also quotes Jones as saying: "I can get a hit man for \$30" and that he had "Mafia connections."

In a sworn statement, Katsaris said he learned his daughter Maria has entered the "innermost governing body" of the church but that steps had been taken to assure her loyalty.

"I ascertained from people who had firsthand knowledge that Maria had been required to sign an undated suicide note that could be used to explain her disappearance should she ever attempt to leave the church," Katsaris said.

Katsaris traveled to Guyana twice last year to see his daughter. He saw her once in the company of two U.S. Embassy officials and four church members.

"It wasn't my daughter I saw but a completely different person," Katsaris told The Press Democrat in his statement, he declined to return his embrace, was suspicious, hostile and paranoid and accused him of being part of a conspiracy against the church.

Tuesday he said he hasn't heard from her since.

Crawford said Jones has stated he could silence his critics by accusing them of being homosexuals, child abusers, terrorists or sexual deviates.

Katsaris's statement said Maria "had been required to sign statements that the children's residential treatment center that I direct was involved in a gigantic welfare fraud, that it was staffed by child molesters and homosexuals, that I myself was a child molester, and had sexually abused one of the girls in the program..."

Katsaris also said church officials told U.S. Embassy officials that Katsaris had sexually molested his daughter.

In San Francisco today, church spokesman Ingram said Katsaris' daughter "will continue to state this because it is the truth."

Also cited was the case of Timothy Stoen, former deputy district attorney for Mendocino and San Francisco counties, and his estranged wife, Grace, who were deeply involved in the church when it operated its facility in Redwood Valley.



TIM STOEN



Concerned relatives leaders Steven Katsaris, left, and Howard Oliver

Stoen, present at the confrontation Tuesday but remaining in the background, and his wife, are currently fighting Jones for custody of the Stoen's six-year-old son.

Grace Stoen left the church in 1973. Her husband followed after learning of the alleged physical abuses suffered by church members at the hands of Jones and church leaders.

The Stoen's boy remains in Guyana and Jones claims he is the boy's natural father by Mrs. Stoen. The Stoens brought habeas corpus proceedings in Guyana last year and still are await a decision.

Ingram said today Jones has not returned to the U.S. because of the custody case on the advice of his attorneys.

Stoen said Tuesday's action represents the first organized attempt to determine the status of church members, many of whom reportedly left the U.S. saying they would be back in a few weeks but haven't been seen since.

Previously, Stoen said, relatives are too "terrified" to act.

Signers of the petition include persons with parents, grandparents, sisters and brothers, cousins, even entire families living in Guyana.

The "fear of reprisal" is illustrated in a letter a 13-year-old church member wrote to her grandmother which noted her grandmother's taking her concerns to the media.

The letter concludes:

"I am sorry to hear that you called the radio station but since you did I will not be writing you any more."

# Viewpoint/Ukiah Daily Journal

4—Thursday, April 13, 1978

## Editorial

### Trouble brewing in Guyana

A potentially explosive situation is brewing in Jonestown, Guyana.

On Tuesday of this week some twenty-five relatives of Jones' followers who are residing in Jonestown, the Guyana settlement, led by Steve Katsaris, went to the Temple headquarters in San Francisco.

Katsaris' 24-year-old daughter Maria, who has resided in Jonestown since last summer, has

indicated through letters to her parents that she is satisfied to stay in Guyana. Katsaris accuses Jones of violating human rights by holding relatives as virtual captives.

ONE FATHER HAS EVEN THREATENED TO HIRE MERCENARIES TO RAID JONESTOWN AND "LIBERATE" HIS SON BY FORCE. TROUBLE THAT COULD LEAD TO AN INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT MAY LIE AHEAD.

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# Guyana Chronicle

[The following article appeared in the April 14, 1978 issue of the Guyana Chronicle.]

## Peoples Temple Show: A Success!

The Peoples Temple Agricultural Project presented its cultural variety show entitled "A Cooperative Feeling" last week at the National Cultural Center with a style never before seen in Guyana, which literally prompted the audience to shout for more, following some of the performances. The theme of Cooperation was carried throughout the program, which consisted of over 20 different presentations, including Guyana's own Atlantic Symphony Orchestra and the Yoruba Singers. Although the program ran past midnight few people could be seen leaving.

"The show kept us on the edge of our seats with unique and exciting performances that always had us wondering what might be next," said two members of the Pegasus Soundwaves (a renowned Guyanese entertainment band.)

One singer, Glance Wilkinson, moved many to tears with a song that she had adapted called "Guyana is so Beautiful". A talented twelve-year-old Temple boy who seems to have a bright future, delivered a powerful song he wrote entitled "Guyana is for Me".

Most of the show's song and dance numbers were accompanied by a brass band, "Jonestown Express", which one experienced stage crewman said was the best band he had heard in the Caribbean. He noted the hard work put in by the band, which often rehearsed from morning till midnight during the week preceding the show.

The presentation of donations raised by the Peoples Temple was made to various local charities, including The National Relief Committee, the Maha Saba Temple (a home for orphans), Bellfield Home for the Aged and the Guyana Council of Churches (of which Peoples Temple is a member).

Presently there are over 1000 persons living at the Peoples Temple's Agricultural Project at Jonestown, near Port Kaituma in the Northwest District. Over 100 members traveled to the cultural show via the Temple's boat—a fishing trawler used also as a medical mercy vessel, and to transport supplies.

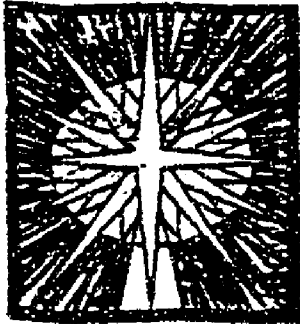
The program was not without its light moments both in song and dances,

as well as in comedy acts. One act was a man with red wavy hair, dressed in a glittering jump suit, high heeled boots and dark glasses—a new rock and roll singing sensation. Young girls went screaming onto the stage hysterically, trying to get a moment of his attire. All that was left when they finished with him was a fat old man in polka dot undershorts and with a bald head. They even took his false eye. The audience roared and few could miss the statement on how some singing stars are nothing more than packaged commodities.

All in all, the show seemed to contain something to delight everyone while promoting the theme that cooperative living can best solve the problems of a developing country. The Peoples Temple will be planning for further cultural shows.

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# PEOPLES TEMPLE

OF THE  
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Jim Jones,  
Pastor

P.T. glen info  
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"For I was as hungry  
and ye gave me meat:  
I was thirsty  
and ye gave me drink:  
I was a stranger  
and ye took me in:  
Naked, and ye clothed me:  
I was sick, and ye visited me:  
I was in prison,  
and ye came unto me.  
Then shall the righteous  
Answer him, saying,  
When saw we thee as hungry  
And fed thee?  
Or thirsty  
And gave thee drink?  
When saw we thee a stranger  
And took thee in?  
Or naked, and clothed thee?  
Or when saw we thee sick?  
Or in prison,  
And came unto thee?  
Verily I say unto you,  
Inasmuch as ye have done it  
Unto one of the least of these,  
Ye have done it unto me"

Matthew 25: 31-40

To all members of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives:

Please find enclosed a copy of excerpts from an editorial which appeared April 13, 1978, in the Ukiah Daily Journal. We submit to you that their threat to employ mercenaries indicates exactly what kind of element this group, including Timothy Stoen and Steve Katsaris and the other handful of "Concerned Relatives" represents. It also capsulizes what we, the members of Peoples Temple, are up against.

We have known all along that the claims and allegations of these detractors are all fabrications. Mr. Katsaris, for example, claims that his daughter Maria, who is 24 years old, is a "virtual captive" at Jonestown. But Maria just recently traveled in the company of the U.S. Consulate on a private plane from the interior of Jonestown to the capital city, Georgetown. At one point she was alone with her dad, the U.S. Consulate, and the Ambassador. Surely, if she were unhappy with her life, she could have asked to go back with her dad to the U.S. The fact is, however, as Maria has openly stated and to which effect has signed affidavits, her father molested her as a child and she does not want to be in his company at all. Surely, that is her right.

Further, if you will note the enclosed article which was carried in Guyana's largest national newspaper, over 100 members of Peoples Temple participated enthusiastically in an exciting national cultural event last week. All of the people travelled from Jonestown to Georgetown by different routes: some by boat, some by plane. They went freely back and forth. And an additional fact for those whose doubts may still not be erased about Temple members being "captive": there was a city-wide power black-out in Georgetown at the time of the event. Temple members who were staying in the homes of various friends throughout the city could surely have left and gone to the Embassy, had they cared to do so.

Well over fifty people per week, on a regular basis, travel back and forth to the capital by boat or plane. They include professional people such as our teachers, medical staff, and pharmacists; they include children who go into town for orthodontia and other dental care, children who are on field

trips to visit Guyanese schools; and people who are buying supplies and finding potential outlets for products our community industries are busy manufacturing.

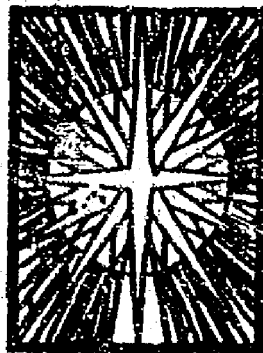
The character of Rev. Jones, the years and years of building a human service work— at the cost of extreme personal sacrifice—and the practical help he and the church have provided for the oppressed and needy over the years, constitute a record which is virtually unequalled by any group of our size in the United States. Yet, apparently, the false accusations of a handful of moral degenerates have gained the ear of a few people. Each and every family member (who are mostly between the ages of 19 and 90) has volunteered to step forward and publicly state the kind of degeneracy the relatives they have chosen to have nothing to do with are guilty of.

BUT NOW THEY HAVE BELIED THEIR TRUE INTENTIONS WITH THIS NEW ELEMENT OF VIOLENT FORCE. We cannot believe responsible people would assist in any way this overt campaign to destroy a group of people just because they feel their ideas are in some way unacceptable. The threat of violent force—or mercenaries—is an absolute outrage.

What cynics are evidently unable to accept is that Jonestown is in every sense of the word a model community: a society of men, women and children who are fulfilled, creative, and very happy. Not a word to the contrary is true. You can come and see for yourself. We welcome you.

Respectfully yours,

*T. Walker*  
Mr. T. Walker



# PEOPLES TEMPLE

OF THE  
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

P.O. Box 19031  
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XXXV... No. 24

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN SAN FRANCISCO

Thursday, June 15, 1978

## Relatives Praise Jonestown, Guy

Recently Peoples Temple held a press conference to let the public hear about Jonestown, Guyana, from people who had just returned from a visit with their relatives at the Agricultural Project. Rev. John V. Moore, former superintendent of United Methodist Churches of Northern California, and his wife, Mrs. Barbara Moore, spent several days with their two daughters and grandson in Jonestown. They came from their home in Reno, Nev., to relate to the public the great beauty and accomplishment of the thriving community in Guyana. The Moores are not members of Peoples Temple. They visited Guyana at their own expense, and traveled to San Francisco from Reno at their own expense for the press conference.

Rev. Moore said, "I'm John Moore, pastor of First United Methodist Church in Reno, Nevada. The two words that came to my mind as I tried to reflect upon my experience (of Jonestown) were 'impressive' and 'amazing.' It boggles the mind to see that great clearing (of land) and to understand how so much could have been done in such a relatively short period of time. I think almost a thousand acres have been cleared, and most of it has already been planted with various crops.

"I had a feeling of freedom. Neither in Georgetown, with 25 or 30 people coming and going all the time with total freedom, nor at the project itself did I have any feeling that anybody was being restrained or coerced or intimidated in any

way." When asked whether people told him they were happy, he responded, "It was so obvious. We talked about what they were doing, and all of them were engaged in some activities or work that was particularly important for them. We talked to anybody and everybody we wanted to, and we were 'ourselves' out walking around the facility. We went to the piggery, the chicken, the dairy, the cannery, the cassava mill, the nursery."

Rev. Moore went on to talk about the day care nursery, the accredited school, and a health facility that is "the best facility in that whole region in Guyana." Rev. and Mrs. Moore commented on the "beauty" of the inclusion of older people in the community life, and the library with more than 8,000 volumes, where old and young read for pleasure or do research. Mrs. Moore described both the medical and the educational services as "excellent" (one of the Moores' daughters is a nurse, the other is a teacher), and went on to speak of the project as a whole as "a community of caring and sharing with the added dimension of love. In a sense it reminds me of a New Testament community," she reflected, "in the purest sense of the

word, in the love and concern for all. It is a beautiful, heroic, creative project. It is absolutely miraculous." One newscaster commented Mrs. Moore seemed very impressed and asked would she describe it as "utopian." "Yes," she answered, "It's a lovely utopia."

Other specifics were provided as well about the lifestyle and quality of life in Jonestown: "It is a cooperative... Food is provided for everyone. There's medical care for everyone, and educational opportunities for everyone. There are work needs and opportunities for the members of the community. One of the great things is the opportunity, for some of the younger people particularly, to be learning skills when that opportunity is not present here."

Mrs. Moore added that the housing is well suited to the specific needs of the residents. "It's a complete city, and one thing they do encourage is the nuclear family. You can choose to have your own home, or, if you're a single person, you may live in a dormitory, whichever you prefer. The older folks have their nest little yards and white picket-fence fences, with the opportunity to

gardens, or just sit." Attorney Charles Garry, who was also present, added that, when he visited, he saw them put up a cottage in one day, from the ground on up ready for occupancy.

Garry concluded with remarks about the medical center in Jonestown, headed by a young doctor who was put through medical school by Peoples Temple and who graduated with high honors. He said that he was particularly impressed

with "the senior citizens' cottages right around the (medical) compound." They are looked in on by medical helpers first thing every morning. "Medical services are provided free to every resident on the project, and extensive clinic work is done in the surrounding community. The medical compound is something you have never seen, and you probably won't see it unless you go there. It's almost a miracle."

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Robert

THIS NIGHTMARE IS TAKING PLACE RIGHT NOW

WILL YOU HELP US FREE OUR FAMILIES?

WHO ARE THE "CONCERNED RELATIVES"?

We are individuals having only one bond in common; relatives isolated in the "Jonestown" jungle encampment in Guyana, South America, under the total control of one man, Jim Jones. We espouse no political or religious viewpoint. Our only concern is for our families. We are bewildered and frightened by what is being done to them. Their human rights are being violated and the fabric of our family life is being torn apart.

WHAT SPECIFICALLY IS BEING DONE TO OUR RELATIVES?

These are the sad and terrible facts:

"All decisions in Jonestown are made by one man, Jim Jones. There is no democracy. There is no dissent permitted.

"Armed guards are stationed around Jonestown to prevent anyone leaving unless given express permission by the leader. 200 guns have been transported in. A "SWAT" team patrols the borders of Jonestown.

"Passports and monies are confiscated by Jones upon arrival of his members in Guyana so that they cannot be "cleared" by the Immigration Officials to leave Guyana.

"Long distance telephone calls to the United States are prohibited as part of Jones' campaign that all family ties be cut in favor of his "cause".

"All incoming and outgoing mail is censored.

"No one is permitted to leave Jonestown except on business for the "cause" and then only in the company of other residents who are required to spy and report back to Jones.

"The residents are told that if they try to leave the Peoples Temple organization, they will be killed and their bodies left in the jungle.

"Their leader, Jim Jones, says publicly that a "unanimous vote" of the 1,000 residents of Jonestown (including children) was taken to put "our lives on the line" if the alleged "harrassment" continues. Jones has held mock "mass suicide" sessions to condition his members to die for "the cause" at the moment he gives the order.

JONESTOWN  
CONCENTRATION CAMP  
GUYANA, SOUTH AMERICA

-OVER-

## WHY ARE WE ASKING YOU AS A "CONCERNED CITIZEN" TO HELP?

Because we are desperate and don't know what else to do. Neither the Guyana government nor the United States government thus far has been willing to intervene. Jones simply ignores court orders.

We want our loved ones to be allowed to live in freedom. There appears to be only one way to achieve this -- to publicize the truth and to pressure the Prime Minister of Guyana both directly and through the U.S. State Department. We sent a petition on May 10, 1978, to Prime Minister Burnham requesting him to:

1. Order a governmental investigation of Jonestown with inspectors placed there around the clock.
2. Order Jones to stop violating the human and legal rights of our relatives. Specifically, to order Jones to:
  - a. Remove all guards preventing people from leaving Jonestown;
  - b. Return passports and money;
  - c. Permit our relatives to mix with local Guyanese as individuals;
  - d. Stop censoring mail;
  - e. Permit our relatives to return home for a one-week visit at our expense, return fare guaranteed, to show they are not being held against their will;
  - f. Abide by the lawful orders of the courts in the U.S.
3. Expel Jones from Guyana if he refuses to abide by these orders.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP US?

### Three Things:

- \* Pray for the safe return of our loved ones soon, even if only for a one-week home visit at our expense, return fare being guaranteed, so we can know they have free will to choose.
- \* Write to the two officials with power to force Jones to respect human and legal rights:

Honorable Forbes Burnham  
Prime Minister of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana  
Public Buildings  
Georgetown, Guyana, South America  
and

Honorable Cyrus Vance  
Secretary of State of the United States  
2201 "C" Street  
N.W. Washington, D.C. 20520

- \* Give as you feel led to help defray expenses, which are considerable.  
Send your check to:

CONCERNED RELATIVES AND CITIZENS  
120 Montgomery Street, Suite 1700  
San Francisco, California 94104

(An application for tax-exempt status will soon be filed with I.R.S. Our attorneys say "Concerned Relatives and Citizens" meets all the requirements and that approval by the I.R.S. will be retroactive to include donations made now.)

THANK YOU FROM THE DEPTHS OF OUR HEARTS!

JUST ONE INSTANCE OF HOW JIM JONES, WHO IS WHITE, GAINED  
HIS POWER BY "RIPPING OFF" BLACK PEOPLE AND THIRD WORLD PEOPLE

P.T. gen. info  
1983  
SCS

23 Part I—52, Jan 8, 1978

Los Angeles Times

## L.A. Couple Sue Religious Leader

### Coerced Into Selling Home, They Allege in \$18 Million Suit

BY RUSSELL CHANDELSON

Times Staff Writer

An elderly Los Angeles couple who said they were coerced by People's Temple leader Jim Jones to sell their home and turn the proceeds over to the controversial religious figure filed an \$18 million suit Tuesday against Jones in Los Angeles Superior Court.

Jones, who heads a large international religious movement that claims 20,000 members in California, most of them black, since last June has been in Guyana, South America, where he runs the church's 27,000-acre farm colony.

Mr. and Mrs. White E. Medlock, who were former members of People's Temple, alleged in the complaint that last year Jones and other defendants used "threats, duress, and threats of death and bodily harm" to "coerce" them from the proceeds from the "forced sale" of the Medlocks' home and real property in Los Angeles.

In 1975, according to the suit, Jones, who at the time had in People's Temple in Los Angeles as well as the headquarters temple in San Francisco.

It began to pressure the Medlocks "to sell all they had, give all proceeds from such sales to People's Temple, and to convert."

The money was needed, the Medlocks said they were told, to develop the agricultural religious center in Guyana, where about 1,100 of Jones' followers are living.

Jones coerced them to offer their properties, which allegedly had a fair market value of \$120,000, for sale at \$120,000, the suit said.

Among various means of coercion and harassment, Jones and others used against them, the Medlocks maintained, was a threat by Jones "You will either sign these papers or you will die. We are not taking your property but just protecting it."

The Medlocks' attorney is Timothy Q. Stoen, a former member of People's Temple in Redwood Valley, near Ukiah in Northern California.

Stoen, one-time assistant district attorney in San Francisco and Merced counties, said in an interview he had become disillusioned with Jones after spending three last year in the Guyana jungle encampment known as "Jonestown."

"Jones started an apostate community based on trust, sharing and the turning over of property to economic fairness, social justice and racial brotherhood," Stoen, 42, said. "But power went to his head."

Stoen said last 8-year-old son is still at the South American colony.

In April, a group of parents and relatives of People's Temple members—including Stoen and Ukiah educator Steve Katsaris, whose 21-year-old daughter is in Guyana—challenged Jones to allow their children to return from Guyana for a one-week visit at the parents' expense.

In a series of affidavits and a petition the group accused Jones of holding his power through fear, fraud, physical beatings, appropriation of parishioners' property and "mind programming."

Last summer, when a series of allegations and complaints against Jones appeared in the press, Jones' aides issued a series of rebuttals calling the charges "absurd, outrageous, outrageous" and countercharged that some of the disclosures were "terrorists and

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child molestations.

Jones wielded considerable political clout in the San Francisco area prior to his departure to Guyana. At that time he resigned from the San Francisco Housing Authority to which he had been appointed chairman by Mayor George Moscone.

The interracial temple has been ridiculed by prominent political figures and in 1976 the charismatic black preacher shared a platform with Ronald Reagan during the presidential campaign.

Last last month, Kathy Hunter, the wife of the Ukiah Daily Journal newspaper's executive editor, was placed in protective custody by the Guyanese government for a week after she attempted to investigate the Jonestown colony.

JUN 29 1978



## Ex-Peoples Temple Member

# Grim Report From Jungle

By Marshall Kilduff

The Peoples Temple jungle outpost in South America was portrayed yesterday as a remote realm where the church leader, the Rev. Jim Jones, orders public beatings, maintains a squad of 50 armed guards and has involved his 1,000 followers in a threat of mass suicide.

This description was provided by Deborah Layton, 25, who was a top aide of Jones until she asked American consular officials in Georgetown to safeguard her departure from Guyana, where the temple has its agricultural mission.

Peoples Temple officers in San Francisco last night relayed — via shortwave radio from Guyana — a refutation of the charges from two of the South American mission's residents, identified as Lisa and Larry Layton, the mother and brother of Deborah Layton.

"These lies are too ridiculous to refute," Lisa Layton said. "... We are treated beautifully here."

Larry Layton said, "We are treated beautifully."

San Francisco temple officer Tina Cincay added, "We absolutely refute all the charges. This just makes us believe more than ever that there is a conspiracy against the church."

Jones became the center of a storm of controversy last summer when he slipped out of San Francisco with his followers for Guyana. public charges were made by former followers that Jones had performed false medical cures to win converts, that he oversaw beatings of church members in closed meetings and that he amassed more than \$5 million in donations.

According to Layton, Jones has become a "paranoid" obsessed with "traitors" in his own ranks who question him or do not work hard enough in the farm fields and with an outside world that has publicized his critics.

The fever-pitch emotions of temple members that allowed Jones to dispatch them to civil rights causes and liberal political rallies in



DEBORAH LAYTON, A FORMER AIDE TO JIM JONES  
She told of armed guards and savage discipline

California has now turned to a military-style vigilance against an imminent attack by suspected "mercenaries," Layton said.

The temple fields are patrolled by two rings of khaki-uniformed armed guards, men and women members of "security alert teams" who have access to 200 to 300 rifles, 25 pistols and a homemade bazooka, Layton said.

Discipline, she said, is handled at public gatherings of the entire church community. On one occa-

sion an elderly woman was humiliated by being forced to strip. Younger members are "knuckled" by having fists ground into their foreheads, and others are ordered to an underground "box" where they must sit for days at a time, Layton said.

Jones has ringed the work fields with loudspeakers and talks for stretches of up to six hours, she added. Farmhands are expected to work from 5:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. with an hour for lunch and another hour

for dinner before more serious  
talking until midnight, Layton said.

The diet consists mostly of rice,  
purchased in the Guyana capital of  
Georgetown because the farm is  
not expected to be self-sufficient  
for another three years she said.

She said that on the occasion of  
visits from outsiders whom James  
wished to impress, church mem-  
bers are invited to meet and  
repartee. Other trusted followers  
she claimed were drilled to give  
optimistic opinions about life at the  
mission, called Jonestown.

James, who often went to shops,  
never hesitated to protect his public  
image in San Francisco, but re-  
mained at the mission, refusing  
even to venture into Georgetown,  
she reported.

Among his concerns has been a  
growing child custody case in the  
Guyana capital.

She said the 1982 followers  
were told to drink a bitter brown  
liquid potion, after which they  
supposedly would fall asleep and  
then be shot by James' guards. The  
revelation went as far as having the  
community drink a phony potion  
before James called it off, Layton  
added.

Layton said she was able to  
leave Guyana by smuggling a trip to  
Georgetown. After several days she  
secretly arranged with American  
authorities to obtain an  
emergency passport and flew to  
New York on May 12. She is now  
living in San Francisco.

"Everyone there wants to  
leave, I'm sure of it," she said. "But  
you never get a chance to be alone.  
Everyone is told to spy on other  
people."

Layton was then in charge of  
church finances here before join-  
ing the Guyana colony last Decem-  
ber, and James' central bank ac-  
counts in Europe, California and  
Guyana, according to bank \$10  
million.

WOTOM

# Escapee tells of suicide plan at Rev. Jones outpost

By GEORGE KLINEMAN

A trusted Peoples Temple aide who escaped last month from "The Promised Land," the church's 37,000-acre farm in Guyana, South America, claims the 1,100 U.S. citizens residing there are prepared to commit mass suicide on the orders of their leader, the Rev. Jim Jones.

Deborah Layton, 25, a graduate of Santa Rosa Junior College who joined the controversial church when it was headquartered in Redwood Valley, told The Press Democrat that Jones has set up an elaborate plan for exterminating the population at the jungle outpost if it should ever come under attack.

"There was a group assigned to take care of (kill) the children," she

said in a telephone interview from the office of her attorney, Jeff Haas, San Francisco. "Then there was another group assigned to take care of those who spoke out against Jones ... Everybody who was going to kill anybody had someone assigned to them as well."

When Haas went to Guyana to represent Grace Stoen in a custody battle with Jones in September, Layton said, Jones ordered her and other temple aides to threaten Guyanese officials with a grisly ultimatum.

Jones, she said, ordered her to tell the officials "that if everything wasn't worked out, the custody case, everything would be done by 12:30 (p.m.). She claims she was fur-

ther instructed to tell the officials the mass suicide "would create an international incident."

Jones, she said, described this tactic as "The crazy nigger approach."

Grace Stoen and her estranged husband, Tim, former assistant district attorney of Mendocino County, are awaiting a decision from the Guyanese court on the legal battle to gain custody of their son, John, age six.

The Rev. Jones claims he is the father of the child.

"John Stoen is treated very well," said Layton. "He lives with Maria Kataris, who lives in the same cabin where Jim Jones lives." John, she added, "calls Jim Jones

"Dad" and Maria, "Mom." He (John) thinks he came out of her (Maria's) womb."

According to official records, John Stoen was born Jan. 25, 1972 at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital. Tim and Grace Stoen are listed on the birth certificate as the child's parents.

Maria Kataris' father, Steve, has filed a libel suit against the temple over allegations by Maria that he molested her as a child.

Kataris, a spokesman for Concerned Relatives, a group that is trying to open communications with relatives of the temple outpost, is the director of Trinity School.

(Continued on next page)

THE  
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# Peoples Temple

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While she tended the temple's flourishing vegetable crop, Jim Jones' voice blared out over a speaker system that encircles the fields. There were days, she said, when he would speak for six hours at a time.

Jones, she said, would read his own version of the news, which almost invariably included stories of government corruption and CIA plots in the United States. He would ramble on and on with socialist and communist theory, claiming Russia and Cuba are "the spiritual motherland."

On several occasions, Layton said, Jones talked about his deep admiration for Ugandan dictator Idi Amin.

In addition to claiming he is God, Layton said, Jones tells his follow-

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Later, Jones placed her in the trusted position of temple bookkeeper, the same position she held at the temple in San Francisco.

Layton claims the books show Jones has "at least \$10 million" stashed away in bank accounts in Europe, Guyana and California.

Much of the income that supports his operation in Guyana, she says, comes in the form of Social Security checks that are mailed to elderly residents there. Those checks, which are immediately signed over to the temple, total more than \$85,000 per month, she said.

Layton said she had no intention of ever going to Guyana. When temple officials assured her she would be allowed to come home after two months, however, she reluctantly agreed.

After a week in Georgetown, she was taken to Jonestown, the Guyanese government's name for the remote colony.

"When I got to Jonestown and saw the armed guards," she says, "I knew I didn't want to stay."

Two rings of 50 armed guards, both men and women, form "security alert teams" that surround the compound, she claims. The guards, she said, have access to an arsenal that includes between 200 and 300 rifles, 25 pistols and a home-made bazooka.

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"When Charles Garry (Jones' attorney) was in Guyana," she said, "he was given the best cabin there. Everything changed. The site was better. There was dancing and partying."

After two months in Jonestown, Layton asked temple officials to return her to San Francisco, but they refused. The officials told her there is a "huge CIA conspiracy" against Jim Jones. "They told me I would be arrested when I arrived in the United States and questioned," she said, "and (that if I didn't give information (to the CIA), I would be tortured."

The opportunity to escape finally came in May, when she was sent on temple business to Georgetown. She escaped from the group and turned herself in to American consular officials, who granted her an emergency passport and agreed to safeguard her departure from Guyana. She flew to New York on May 13 and is now living in San Francisco.

Temple officials continue to deny the charges against the church and the Rev. Jones.

"We absolutely refute all the charges," said Tim Clancy, a church spokesman in San Francisco. "This just makes us believe more than ever that there is a conspiracy against the church."

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## Justice Dept. Ruled Out Inquiries Into Charges of Abuses in Cults

ARR #2  
PT- exhibits

By NICHOLAS M. HORROCK

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23 — The Justice Department has rebuffed several requests by members of Congress to investigate allegations of brainwashing and physical abuse in religious cults on the ground that such investigations would violate constitutional guarantees of freedom of religion, interviews and Government correspondence have disclosed.

For at least five years the Justice Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation have been receiving complaints that several national religious

cults were using mind-controlling techniques, imprisonment and physical abuse. The charges were similar to those made against the People's Temple, some 400 of whose members perished in the mass suicide and killings in Guyana on Saturday.

Representative Leo J. Ryan, the California Democrat, who was murdered in the People's Temple tragedy, was one of two Congressmen to make the most recent major appeal. In May 1977 he and Representative Robert M. Glines asked the Justice Department to investigate charges that several religious cults controlled their members through brainwashing.

### Physical Abuse Also Noted

The Congressmen said they had evidence that physical abuse was common. They said they had also received allegations of fraudulent manipulation by such religious groups of veterans' benefits, welfare payments and the food stamp program.

In a meeting with Benjamin Civiletti, then chief of the Criminal Division of the Justice Department and now Deputy Attorney General, the two reported that they and many other members of Congress had received complaints from in-

Continued on Page A14, Column 1

# Justice Department Ruled Out Inquiries Into Cults

REAP-2  
PT-446-15 Continued From Page A1

ment their members and from the parents of children who had joined religious sects. The members were often brainwashed and out of control of their own minds.

According to Congressional aides and members of parents' groups, the two Congressmen had also been supplied with "at least a dozen" reports of physical violence, including beatings used as a disciplinary technique by certain cults.

Mr. Glavin arranged for the Justice Department meeting to be attended by Dr. Margaret Singer, a psychologist who was a specialist on brainwashing and who testified at the trial of Patricia Hearst, and by Prof. Richard Delgado, a lawyer who has researched the legal aspects of mind control.

The delegation, which included several Congressional staff members, reportedly gave Mr. Civiletti and other Justice Department officials a long dissertation on the problems created by a wide range of groups in this country that take young adults into private camps and training schools.

Some 10 weeks after the meeting, Mr. Civiletti reported by letter to Representative Glavin: "It continues to be the position of the Criminal Division that allegations of 'brainwashing,' 'mind control,' 'thought reform' or 'coercive persuasion' would not support a prosecution under the Federal kidnapping statute."

His letter, prepared by Robert Kanich, a Deputy Assistant Attorney General, said the department believed that the kidnapping statute was in "outlaw interstate kidnapping."

"A prosecution could not be sustained based upon evidence that an adult of normal intelligence had been 'brainwashed' into continued association with a religious sect," the letter noted.

The department also said that allegations of this type would not be sufficient to

sustain prosecution under statutes covering peonage, slavery and involuntary servitude.

Mr. Civiletti's letter also said that the Government was wary of offering legislation to deal with these problems because such laws could be "an infringement on the sect's free exercise of religion." The letter said that legal history indicated that the Government could enter these realms only if they showed a "grave and immediate danger" to the interest the Government is authorized to protect.

"Even if a sect requires its members to undergo long hours of work, training and indoctrination with limited amounts of food and sleep, it is questionable that these activities present a grave and immediate danger either to society or the members so as to warrant the imposition of Federal criminal sanctions," the letter noted.

It also said that the evidence that sect members "do not have the capacity to exercise free will" was "inconclusive."

Mr. Civiletti cited several court cases in his letter, including a criminal prosecution in New York of leaders of the Hare Krishna organization on charges that they falsely imprisoned members by "deception and intimidation."

In dismissing the case, a state court noted, "Religious proselytizing and the recruitment of and maintenance of a belief through a strict regimen, meditation, chanting, self-denial and the communication of other religious teachings cannot under our laws—as presently enacted—be construed as criminal in nature and serve as the basis for criminal indictment."

The court also said that to sustain the indictment would "open the so-called Pandora's box to a plethora of unjustified investigations, accusations and prosecutions that would go on ad infinitum to the detriment of the citizens of our state and place in jeopardy our Federal and state constitutions."

What made Mr. Civiletti's response unusual was that there was no indication that the Justice Department ever conducted a sustained investigation of allegations about mind control or brainwashing on which to base his conclusions.

In his letter of August 1977 he promised Mr. Glavin that the F.B.I. would interview 18 persons about allegations that they had been physically abused. But Congressional staff members said they never received a report from the Justice Department on the outcome of these interviews or on whether any of the cases had produced a criminal charge.

Several parents who have "lost" adult children to religious cults said in interviews that they did not believe that the F.B.I. had followed up on any complaints of maltreatment or imprisonment. These people asked that their names not be used in published articles because they feared that their children, who are still in the various religious cults, would suffer.

Mr. Civiletti's letter is not the only instance where the department has formally said it could not open an investigation of allegations of wrongdoing by a religious cult.

In September 1976 Richard L. Thornburgh, Mr. Civiletti's predecessor and now the Governor-elect of Pennsylvania, told Representative Glavin that before the Justice Department could open a general inquiry on a religious sect there had to be an allegation of a violation of Federal law.

But again representatives of parents' groups said that when specific incidents of abuse had been brought to the attention of Federal authorities they had been told to report them to the local police because the F.B.I. had no jurisdiction on such crimes. The parents' groups complain, however, that the religious cults move their members all over the country and overseas and that they appear to be beyond the powers of many state authorities.

San Francisco Chronicle



ONE OF THE Bay Area's most prominent and widely respected columnists, Herb Caen, has followed Rev. Jones' ministry in his column for several years. His comments reflect the admiration and support that are held by the vast majority of community leaders for Rev. Jones. In his most recent columns, Mr. Caen has expressed skepticism about the validity of the press attacks against Rev. Jones and about Timothy Stoen's claim to paternity in the custody case he is pressing. The following are excerpts:

"Like Santa Claus, he (Rev. Jim Jones) knows when you've been good: many a San Franciscan and many a project have received sizable checks from Peoples Temple saying, 'We appreciate what you are doing.'"

(March 2, 1976)

Re. the Tracy-Kilduff articles in the New West magazine: "So far, lots of smoke, but no gun."

(September 1, 1977)

"District Attorney Joseph Freitas has said he found 'absolutely nothing' that would cause him to prosecute, so why does the Rev. Jones remain in the jungles of South America?

"One reason, as disclosed here some time back, is his fear that a six-year old boy he describes as 'my son' would be taken away if he returned. He means 'my son' literally, even though Timothy Oliver Stoen, a former Dist. Atty. here, and his more or less estranged wife, Grace Lucy Stoen, claim the lad is THEIR son. A custody fight, centered in Guyana, is still hanging fire.

"Floating around is what appears to be an affidavit signed by Tim Stoen on February 6, 1972, and witnessed by Marceline M. Jones, the Rev. Jones' wife. It states in part, 'I, Timothy Oliver Stoen, hereby acknowledge that in April, 1971, I entreated my beloved pastor, James W. Jones, to sire a child by my wife, Grace Lucy (Grech) Stoen, who had previously, at my insistence, reluctantly but graciously consented thereto. James W. Jones agreed to do so, reluctantly, after I explained that I...was unable after extensive attempts to sire one myself. My reason for wanting James W. Jones to do this is that I wanted my child to be fathered...by the most compassionate, honest and courageous human being the world contains.

"Jones' lawyer, Charles Garry: 'I have not seen that affidavit. I have, however, seen the boy in question, and he is the spittin' image of Jim.'"

(January 27, 1978)

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# Reds Kept Local Student 15 Hours Without Food for Taking Photos

Fifteen hours in Communist hands. That was the experience of Tim Stoen, Littleton graduate, who had the audacity to take a picture of a sign being erected in East Berlin.

Stoen told about his ordeal at the Rotary Club last week after returning from a year abroad on a Rotary Fellowship.

"I thought I should go to East Berlin and see what it is like behind the Iron Curtain," Stoen said. The first thing that I noticed was



TIM STOEN

the blank expression on the faces of everyone. You could tell they were just waiting for the day they might have some freedom. This will come slowly. Poets are already getting some freedom, and so are theatrical people and musicians. It was noteworthy that a journalist was able to print in Moscow the interview with President Kennedy."

## Began Taking Pictures

Stoen said he took a number of pictures in East Berlin without difficulty. Then he took one of a sign being erected near the newly-built wall.

Three German officers rushed over to Tim and an East Berlin student who was showing him around. They took the pair at 12:30 p.m. to a building and held them there until 8 p.m.

"I was fearful for my new-found friend because he had taken too many liberties for the Communists, and I didn't want to get him into trouble," Stoen said. "Finally, at 8 p.m., three men escorted me out

of the building and put me in a Czech car. We drove and we drove in silence. I didn't know Berlin was so large. We came to a building with bars on it and I was taken in and questioned. They kept trying to trip me up, coming around to the same questions in different words to see if I would contradict myself. I had to take everything out of my pockets. They found a roll of exposed film and kept it. The guards were curious about my nail clip and wanted to see how it worked. They had never seen an American coin purse that opens a crack when you bend it, and they were like children with it. I was getting both weak and apprehensive, and I was trying to test the power of positive thinking. I had had no food for 15 hours and I was glad when they brought me some unpalatable ham sandwiches. Soon afterwards, they took me to the border and let me go."

Stoen had a happier experience in West Germany, 5 miles from the East German border. A little old lady recognized him as an American without much in the way of funds.

"She pressed two things in my hands," Stoen reported. "One gift was about 40c worth of coins and the other was a sack containing four bananas. She told me that she loved Americans for the kindness she received from them at the close of World War II."

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## Escapee tells of suicide plan at Rev. Jones outpost

By GEORGE KLUMENAN

A trusted Pro-Temple aide who escaped last month from "The People's Temple," the church's 37,000-acre farm in Guyana, South America, claims that 1,000 U.S. citizens residing there are plotting to commit mass suicide on the orders of their leader, the Rev. Jim Jones.

Deborah Layton, 24, a graduate of South Maine Junior College who joined the controversial church when it was headquartered in Redwood Valley, told The Press Democrat that Jones has set up an elaborate plan for exterminating the population of the jungle outpost if it should ever come under attack.

"There was a group assigned to take care of (kill) the children," she

told in a telephone interview from the office of her attorney, Jeff Huse, San Francisco. "There were two other groups assigned to take care of those who spoke out against Jones. Everybody who was going to kill anybody had someone assigned to them as well."

When Huse went to Guyana to represent Grace Moon in a custody battle with Jones in September, Layton told Jones ordered her and other Temple aides to threaten Guyanese officials with a grisly ultimatum.

Jones, she said, ordered her to tell the officials "that if everything wasn't worked out (the custody case), everyone would be dead by 11:00 p.m. The claim she was per-

haps instructed to tell the officials the mass suicide "would create an international incident."

Jones, she said, described this tactic as "The crazy nigger approach."

Grace Moon and her estranged husband, Tim, former assistant district attorney of Mendocino County, are awaiting a decision from the Guyanese court on the legal battle to gain custody of their son, John, age 14.

The Rev. Jones claims he is the father of the child.

"John Moon is treated very well," said Layton. "He lives with Maria Katsaris, who lives in the same cabin where Jim Jones lives." John, she added, "calls Jim Jones

'Dad' and Maria, 'Mom.' He (John) claims he came out of her (Maria's) womb."

According to official records, John Moon was born Jan. 23, 1972 at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital. Tim and Grace Moon are listed on the birth certificate as the child's parents.

Maria Katsaris' father, Steve, has filed a libel suit against the temple over allegations by Maria that he molested her as a child.

Katsaris, a spokeswoman for Concerned Relatives, a group that is trying to open communications with relatives of the jungle sequester, is the director of Trinity School.

(Continued on Page 12A)

# Peoples Temple

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Residents live in a U-shaped compound primarily of rice and vegetables.

Interpersonal relationships are forbidden, she claims, without prior approval of "the relations committee," a group of loyal followers who must first approve such arrangements on a three-month trial basis.

During these three months, the couple is allowed to talk together, but must not show any physical affection. After that period, layton says, the committee reviews the relationship and decides whether the couple will be allowed to live together for six months.

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# GUYANA'S DEP. AMBASSADOR GUEST OF PEOPLES TEMPLE



Hon. Claude Worrell, Deputy Ambassador to the Guyanese Embassy to Washington, D.C., addresses the audience of nearly 5,000 people gathered at a testimonial dinner in honor of Bishop Jim Jones. Mr. Worrell, who was seated at the head table along with Bishop and Mrs. Jones, Lt. Governor and Mrs. Mervyn Dymally, California State Assemblyman Willie Brown, and Mayor George Moscone of San Francisco, personally thanked Bishop Jones and the Peoples Temple congregation for their agricultural mission to his country. Perhaps the spirit of the event was best summed up in the words of Lt. Gov. Dymally who was gratified at the Temple's demonstration of racial brotherhood.

"All people can live, work, and love together," he stated. For here was an example of thousands who had come together — blacks, whites, orientals, and young and old alike — in mutual respect and harmony.

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## Brotherhood is Our Religion

For I was an hungered and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty and ye gave me drink:  
I was a stranger and ye took me in: naked, and ye clothed me:  
I was sick and ye visited me: I was in prison and ye came unto me.  
Then the righteous shall answer Him, saying,  
When saw we thee an hungered and fed thee? Or thirsty and gave thee drink?  
When saw we thee a stranger and took thee in? Or naked, and clothed thee?  
Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison and came unto thee?  
Verily, I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of  
These... Ye have done it unto me.

Matthew 25: 31-40

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SCAN #194 (Repeat of #121)  
"Mind Control Cults" 9/10/78

SCM. This is SCM and I'm Hal Draper. Several weeks ago we investigated the cult known as the Unification Church.

"Our child has been psychologically kidnapped; we honestly do believe that she has been brainwashed."

"We only get about four to six hours of sleep a night; this begins to break down the mind."

...program government contracts of mail asking for more information. To answer this mail, this week we will feature Dr. John Clark, psychiatrist with Harvard Medical School. Dr. Clark will describe the results of his three-year study of cult contacts and their psychological states. He dedicates this show to Barryman, the paternal headquarters for the Unification Church of the United States.

"Barryman" by Sandy Ben

"Last Sunday" by Billy Preston

Dr. John Clark, Harvard Medical School psychiatrist, on the cults.

"I have examined thirty individuals by the usual psychiatric methods and have taken three years. The first year and a half, I doubted what I was seeing and what I was hearing from people. The picture which has emerged continues to be a consistent picture. I should also mention that I have seen individuals in all stages of involvement - very early, during the induction period, of some of the cults, while they are completely in, when they were freshly out, when they were long out. And I have seen people from seven different groups, this includes the big four, as well as some of the smaller ones which are equally interesting. The pattern is consistent. All of the organizations that I have studied, either directly, or indirectly appear to use similar techniques in gaining converts and maintaining them. These techniques are now describable. They converge in the complete subjugation of the individual and she is then rendered helpless, unless ordered around by the leaders of the cult."

"A large number of the individuals who enter the cults do enter through being brought into a state of extreme attraction brought about by all the intensity of the program around them, which could be called a woman. It's during this state of rapture that the indoctrination really proceeds. It's during this time that they are generally cut off from the old feelings about their own family. They are taught essentially to forget their biological parents, and to accept, in some sort of love and obedience, their real parents who are the leaders of the church or the highest divinity. They are divided from old friends, old habits, old problems, so that sometimes they feel better. They are moved into areas that are extremely strange in every respect. They are served a different kind of diet; the schedules are completely changed, the content of their minds, as reinforced by their peers or by their superiors, is that which has never been heard before in their lives, though it may have some faint resemblance. They are surrounded by aspects of terror, talk of the supernatural, and of the danger and magical dangers of crossing the doctrine. In other words, they are rendered helpless, unable to give, unable to accept a new experience. The people in the cult are generally tired; they are deprived of sleep, ordinary sleep. One whole aspect then of their entire physiological life, is obviously changed by real changes in the sleep pattern. I think it's a very frightening state of mind because they are absolutely obedient to their leader, and would, if asked, as they have said many times, no many witnesses, kill their parents or others if they were asked to."

"Answer the last one" by Brand

Psychiatrist: Dr. John Clark is describing a cult member.

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They step forward from the outside, generally the greater entities were interpreted only through their interests and it is very limited view. There is no way really of getting out. During this time, I think, the individuals are under siege. Their natural resources and even their physical processes are altered. And in their thinking, conception are displaced by the cult. Their thinking is no longer their private business. The essential aspect of this time between me, is that the quality of thinking, the quality of communication, and the quality of speech, if possible, is all completely altered. The thinking is projected, outwardly, outwardly, and not I think the capacity to deal with communication in the outer world. It is non-related -- in character -- so that the direction becomes the description of reality, rather than a warning for reality. Morally and all action then are projected on the basis of the extreme interpretation of the word as it is derived by the leaders."

### "Living in a House" by Marshall Brundage

"Individuals, who enter these circumstances, develop hallucinatory experiences, so that to the one isolated from their usual contacts of reality -- hallucinatory experiences and delusions and sometimes fixed psychotic episodes. I worry about their capacity to live because I can not know in any present state."

The relations between the same are regulated completely with no possibility of any external laws. Dependence is really not-existent because the individuals are not Durable enough to really leave relations to external dependence. But a person kept strictly inside of a hellish dependence such as this can be, after a period of time, permanently changed. In a short time there is a deep and extensive change of mind, a shift in personality to a new and broader horizon than, with the old personality and all its memories, especially memories of feelings, left behind. The complexions persons are deeply changed. There are being so much calmer and no longer capable of feeling real love. There is no lightning, no capacity for capable joy. The heart is incapable to warm the dead and enjoy satisfaction. There is a kind of a pall of melancholy when they are talking of their former decisions. Dark secret schemes, that were once very close the steps to which they are really in ordinary reality.

**THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**Dr. John Clark, President, on the water-**

that they were essentially done in so other way as aspect of life that I which want of so much greater, so to very valuable, and close to the aspect of a new understanding and the on conditions slightly to solving the problems of the situation in which it lived, without always adhering to concrete outside reality. Just before we saw the best. The last of the things that he called this process "materialism." I agree. The individuals themselves, finally, could understand the system. It would come to the rule. Conditions to not any longer a part of each's understanding and with that appears to go all real understand and adoption the way's finally. It's just not there. The with conditions gone, and in the state of some weakness, my husband, a part of the end and if that is understood, then is human and genuine, and finally, by social structure, genuine."

"I don't think matters of religion, if they are entirely local, are interested by the Christian. I think that are entirely local."

[illegible]



...and people are the victims of the cults."

...and

This is SCM, Dr. John Clark believes it's possible to restore a cult member to the former healthier state.

"From the point of view of parents, they often had the sense of loss so great that they have witnessed the death of their children. Their offspring have become to them non-existent as they were. Their social selves, their family selves, have been altered so directly and greatly and all the hopes of parents that they had created individuals from all the pains of twenty years of caring for them, who would be autonomous, who would be able to deal with the outside world, and the ethical problems of living, and the socio-economic problems by themselves. They see all of these hopes smashed. Then they have to revert to the techniques of rescue and deprogramming. It's an attempt to get the individual to start thinking for himself."

"The restoration to the old much more rich form of thinking is generally a rather rapid one once it starts. All the old emotions, the style of thought, the humor, irony, metaphor, are rather suddenly back and the individual can see where he was and where he is, and can react, from where he is, toward where he was, with a sense of humor and acceptance."

"I Know How" by Andrews

"This state of mind goes on for about two weeks to four, five, or six weeks afterward, but there is no question that the old personality, with its old problems and all of its old emotions and its own development are back. The people who come out are really quite sick for about a year; they are depressed, they're isolated, they're unable to make up their minds, they don't know where they are going - they have been hurt. We are balanced in reality by our view, by our understanding, by our background, and our identifications, and by our consciousness, and by the institutions around us, and by those who love us, by those whom we love, and we must remain in some kind of reasonable balance with those."

"This Could Be The Worst" by Randall Sundlett

"I have been called, by one of the large cults, and told that I'm being watched and the implication of this particular cult, which was always in court being sued, is that of course, I will be sued if they can find the slightest bit of grounds. Clearly, they cannot stand criticism - not criticism in the open world. They do not like what's being said about them and would like to reduce the argument to a matter of law, or no law - disagreement about doctrine. I do not worry about doctrine. That's not my problem, they can believe anything they want. These cults are interfering with people's thoughts, they are controlling their thinking, they are doing the unthinkable. It's cruel, it's brutal, it is as bad as bombing a man's back in order to render him helpless, to hurt it is worse. And in the end it might be the death of that person's mind."

You are listening to SCM. This week we featured Dr. John Clark, psychiatrist with Harvard Medical School, who shared the results of his three-year study of the religious cults. If you would like a free printed copy of the talk portion of this week's show, write to SCM, Box 171, Minneapolis, MN. Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope and indicate the station on which you heard this broadcast. I'm Hal Seggesth and John Virochs and I produce SCM with Larry and Dennis. SCM is a public service feature of this station and is a gift of love from the people of the United Methodist Church and the American Lutheran Church, Box 171, Minneapolis, MN.

SCM.



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## JONESTOWN: A MODEL OF COOPERATION

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In October, 1974, a small group of settlers from the United States-based Peoples Temple Church came to Guyana to begin development of the Peoples Temple Agricultural Project. They found themselves in a land of spectacular beauty, towering, graceful trees, and beautiful, friendly people of many races. Here they set about building a community that would be named Jonestown by Guyanese officials, after the founder of the Temple and the initiator of the project, Rev. Jim Jones.

The purpose of the Agricultural Project was to provide a community where new methods of food production and crops could be tried and made available to others in the developing country of Guyana, and eventually to offer medical and educational services to residents of the sparsely populated Northwest Region where the project is located.

Rev. Jones, who struggled for 30 years in the United States for equal rights for the black and poor, founded the Peoples Temple on the model of Apostolic Christianity: an interracial, sharing community dedicated to work unceasingly against the evils of racism, hunger, and injustice. First in the Midwest, then on the West Coast of the United States, the Temple provided a wide range of services for the elderly and destitute. The Peoples Temple in San Francisco and its thousands of members there and across the country are thrilled by the progress of Jonestown and are raising funds to assure the continuing expansion of this highly successful project.

The Third-world nation of Guyana has offered not only a beautiful natural environment for the Agricultural Project, but an opportunity for Temple members to put into practice cherished principles of racial and economic equality, human service and cooperative living. In enthusiastic response to the Guyanese government's drive to feed, clothe, and house its people, many members began training years ago in the United States, in skills that would become an integral part of the growing Jonestown community: medicine, construction, and agriculture.

Today the population of the community is over 1000. Hundreds of acres team with crops, some native, some newly introduced. Seedlings and young fruit trees are started in a nursery; scientific methods and testing, and advice from local Amerindians and Guyanese government agricultural experts is proving to be a very good combination, as season follows productive season. Lush pastures support the growing herds of swine and dairy cattle. Thousands of chickens thrive in sanitary housing and modern incubators. Several horses are enjoyed by all the children, and are used for light hauling as well.

Industry is everywhere, from the construction crews to the cassava mill, where tasty *cassareep* is produced. Cottage industries are flourishing: handcrafted toys; cabinets and furniture of excellent quality; a shoemaker's shop; beautiful baskets, colorful rugs, and garments of every size which, besides being original and attractive, are very well made. Each article reflects the loving work of skilled hands in the peaceful and productive environment that only cooperative social organization can achieve. The machine shop serves a dual purpose: the project's many machinists and mechanics are able to perform repairs and fashion makeshift parts, and the shop is also a classroom, where welding and metalworking

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skills, as well as shop safety, are taught as part of the educational curriculum.

The jungle has receded and now frames a setting of gently rolling pastures, croplands and orchards. We are experimenting to find new crops that will be adaptable to the climate and growing conditions of Guyana, and to discover new uses for crops that are native to the area. We have had some very encouraging successes.

The medical clinic is open around the clock; trained personnel include: a medical doctor, a pharmacist, a dietician, a pediatric specialist, several nurse practitioners, a number of RNs and LVNs, EKG, X-ray and lab technicians, plus many medical assistants, full-time health care workers, and trainees. There are facilities for lab work, EKG monitoring and surgery. The amateur radio has been a lifeline in many situations; calls for medical assistance have brought all kinds of specialists to their radio sets, responding with vital information and assistance.

The success of the Peoples Temple cooperative has created a network of goodwill that, together with word-of-mouth reports, has brought a steady stream of visitors to the project. We have been pleased to welcome guests from various ministries of the Guyanese government, as well as dignitaries, officials and travelers from all over the world. We have found an almost universal appreciation for the beauty of interracial, cooperative living and a recognition of the unique and important role that Guyana and her government have taken in the leadership of the developing nations of the world.

This is Jonestown. Yet even as the story is told, new changes and developments make it another chapter in the history of this very unique community which one visitor called: "A model that should be emulated all over the world..." Its horizons are the endless horizons of the emerging people of Guyana, who are building a new life in this independent, socialistic country whose goal of "feeding, clothing and housing its people" is so closely allied with the human service ideal that Jim Jones has enacted for many years, and which he and his church have been able to realize more fully here in Guyana, than ever before.

# Peoples Temple Agricultural Mission

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## Fresh start in the jungle for the city's misfits

They cut a road seven miles into the South American rain forest and then made a clearing. Today if you visit that clearing in the jungle you will find a little band of misfits from the streets of San Francisco trying to start a new life.

You'll find a purse snatcher feeding pigs, a shoplifter hoeing corn, a transvestite driving a tractor, a prostitute and a couple of dope addicts in the sewing shed making their own clothes.

They are succeeding remarkably well, according to the Rev. Jim Jones, pastor of Peoples Temple on Geary Street and originator of this unusual experiment in human salvage.

"What I see is turning me into an environmental determinist," he said. "We take incorrigibles—people no one could handle. Down there they straighten themselves out. I don't know the explanation. With the dramatic change in environment comes a dramatic change in the person."

Life there is kibbutz style. The transplanted San Franciscans live in cottages and eat in a mess hall that they built themselves—built with lumber from the purpleheart trees they felled to make the clearing and then cut into boards with a sawmill they had brought along. (Continued on back cover)



## Debbi Touchette

Project Director proudly displays a sweet cucumber. As coordinator, she is in constant communication with local and national government officials, often hosting visiting dignitaries. Debbi is fully exercising her natural leadership for the first time here, and doing an amazing job.



## The Mission School

is staffed by nine teachers. Tom Grubbs, below, has a great deal of experience teaching youngsters with learning handicaps. Many of the children that come here have been failures in school because of severe emotional problems. But in this bright and healthy atmosphere they soon find that learning can be fun!

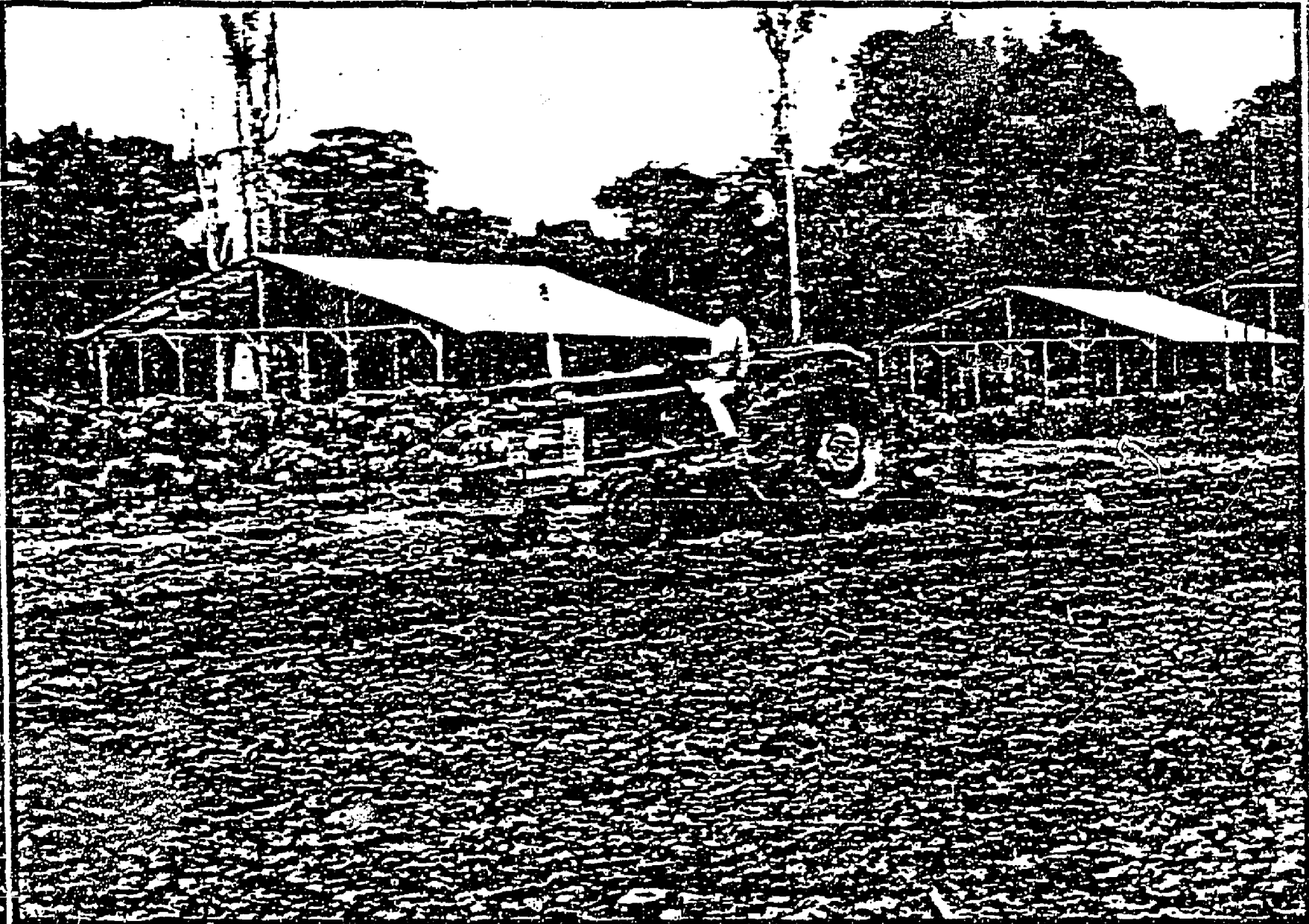


## Mary

was a dedicated thief. She had organized a large ring of teenage accomplices, who made regular raids on department stores. She was so good at lying that she fooled parents and friends for months. When the full extent of her activity was discovered, her parents decided that only a change of environment would save the young girl.

Mary is now a competent supervisor. Her gift for leadership is channelled into supervision of many areas of mission activities that supply the workers with food. Her basically good nature has emerged, and she is learning for the first time in her life to read and write at the mission school.





## Phillip

is plowing ground to prepare for more crops. In the background are a few of the many crops already growing and several new buildings under construction. Phillip is also a sea captain and pilots the Mission boat on fishing trips and transporting supplies.

Flowers and birds of paradise show a flourish of color characteristic of this lush tropical zone.



**Kenny**, (2nd from left) a fifteen-year-old, was the product of a violent home. He witnessed the murder of his own mother. He became a night prowler, staring into windows and entering homes. He was constantly in fights and uncontrollable.

Now in the Mission, he has become a talented mechanic and machine operator.

## Fresh start

(Continued from front cover)

Three years ago the first contingent arrived. Now they have a septic tank sewage system, machine shop, school, church, rec hall. They grow corn, cassava, papaya, coconut. They raise pigs, 5,000 chickens and are introducing cattle.

"Everyone works but no one is forced," Jones said. "Pretty soon after they arrive the work ethic just makes a comeback. No one is forced to stay either. But not one person has requested to come home."

By no means have the exiles consigned themselves to jungle rot. They are cooled by the trade wind, and at night a blanket feels good. They can visit a nearby town, and some boys date native girls. By ham radio they maintain contact with the Peoples Temple here, which also sends them cassettes of selected TV shows.

Jones refers to the jungle outpost simply as "the agricultural project," which is how it began. Two years as a missionary in Brazil gave him a two-fold idea.

Just north of Brazil is the little nation of Guyana, once a British plantation colony. Jones persuaded the Guyana government to let him start a model farm to show the advantages of multi-crop agriculture in the tropics. He also wanted to use the farm as a haven where San Francisco's misfits could get away from their pressures. Guyanese officials were dubious at first, but Pastor Jones is a persuasive man.

Today there are 130 problem people on the model farm and a staff of 21. The staff, which includes nine teachers, was recruited from career people who felt something was missing from their lives. The father figure was a high-powered insurance executive. An MIT man handles engineering. A Baptist minister, at 103, is

launching a new career.

The problem people, besides the usual losers from the street, include the embittered son of a CIA agent, a school arsonist, a boy who cuts off cats' heads and the youngest, a 5-year-old rated as a genius and a sociopath.

Despite the claims of near-perfect success, no one has been sent home as rehabilitated. Jones doesn't see that as necessarily how the story ends. "We don't tell people their time is up," he said. "They are free to stay as long as they feel they should be there."

He told about a new arrival who woke up to the tropic dawn, the song of exotic birds, the soft kiss of the trade wind. The young man threw out his arms and shouted, "Man, the Fillmore has seen the last of me."

## News from the Farm

My own son lives and works there. He was unable to cope with life in the big city. At 14 he was a drug addict. At 17 I put him in a mental hospital for observation. Nothing helped. He was a lost cause until he met Pastor Jim Jones of Peoples Temple and went to the farm in Guyana. Now his life is completely changed. He is happy, has learned two trades and doesn't want to come back up here for quite some time. — Mrs. M.

I have a dear friend who is a member of Peoples Temple and her daughter is one of those you wrote about. We have known her since she was a child, and it broke our hearts when she turned to drugs and dropped out. A young friend got her into Peoples Temple drug program. Not long after that she was given an opportunity to take part in the overseas project. Every report has been glowing since she got there. — Laurie Ellen Henderson

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THE FOLLOWING ARE A SELECTION OF EXCERPTS  
FROM STATEMENTS MADE IN RECENT DAYS BY A  
WIDE VARIETY OF CIVIC, COMMUNITY, AND RE-  
LIGIOUS LEADERS IN RESPONSE TO A SENSATION-  
ALISTIC SMEAR CAMPAIGN DIRECTED AT PEOPLES  
TEMPLE AND ITS MINISTER, REV. JIM JONES.

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MERVYN M. DYMALLY, Lieutenant Governor, California:

Not surprisingly, the metropolitan media have singled out Peoples Temple for scrutiny and criticism. This unusual attack on the Church is the cause of great concern and anguish among the friends of Peoples Temple. However, I am pleased to report that those of us who have looked at the great work of Pastor Jim Jones will continue to have strength in our commitment to him. My former colleagues in the state legislature and Mayor of San Francisco, George Moscone, who has given much assistance, has continued to express confidence in the Rev Jim Jones. The Chairperson of the Legislative Black Caucus and its members are strong in their support of the Peoples Temple and, so is the President of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (Black Press of America), Carlton Goodlett.

WILLIE A. BROWN, JR., California State Assembly:

I have represented thousands of people in the metropolitan area where the headquarters of Rev. Jim Jones' church, Peoples Temple, is located, and I am very familiar with the outstanding work his organization has done in service to society. Rev. Jim Jones is one of the most principled voices for social justice in the nation, and he has been instrumental in providing forceful leadership in developing practical solutions to serious urban problems, such as crime, drug abuse, and neglect of the elderly. Because he is an extremely effective leader in the arena of social progress, Jim Jones has been the object of some malicious attacks from various individuals who (out of personal vindictiveness, racism, and other despicable motives) have mounted a smear campaign. This campaign has been denounced by progressive community leaders and public officials who are working effectively for the interest of blacks and other minority people in our society.

DONNETER E. LANE, Executive Director, San Francisco Council of Churches:

It is a privilege that I/we have the opportunity to express a word of concern for the Christian ministry of the Rev. Jim Jones and the members of Peoples Temple (Disciples of Christ) here in the city of San Francisco and throughout the state of California.

It appears that persons who contribute to humanity the human needs, find themselves in controversial situations, usually marked by misinformation and unsound reasoning. Rev. Jones has contributed to San Francisco and to the needs of the underprivileged and oppressed. He has not done this alone, but with the concern and co-operation of people who are disciples of Christ, in every sense of the word.

Throughout Christendom there have always been those who rejected those who would be followers of Christ. The Scriptures say "feed the hungry - clothe the naked - heal the sick." (He has the spiritual gift of healing and provisions provided for



those seeking help.)

Rev. Jones has contributed spiritually to the San Francisco Council of Churches Board of Directors since becoming a member. His members have shown concern in the issue related to Council work. There is a true spiritual commitment and voluntarily rendered. Rev. Jim Jones' philosophy is a challenge to the citizens of San Francisco and especially to Christians who are not committed to the Christian doctrine.

I/we have the honor and privilege to speak for one from our community and a member of the San Francisco Council of Churches.

CRISTINA VASQUEZ, National Representative, Equal Rights Congress:

To many people in this country, as well as throughout the world, your church and what you stand for has meant hope and justice. But what is more important, that hope has become a reality.

I for one have seen the fruits of your work and have seen that you practice what you teach. There is no doubt in my mind that when an issue of justice or human rights has come to your attention, you have always responded in every way possible to help.

I would like to express that although it outrages me to see what the news media is doing, it does not surprise me. In my life I have always seen that we are always played against each other — church against church, blacks against latinos, latinos against blacks, every minority and working people blaming each other for their failures and problems because that way they can keep us apart and not see that the real problems is between those who have and those who don't.

I would like...to do whatever little we can to show the media and whoever is trying to discredit your work that as long as we live we will not stand for anybody trying to destroy any of our honest, hard working leaders that are fighting for our rights.

REV. NORMAN E. LEACH, Program Administrator, San Francisco Council of Churches:

I am writing to express my concern for the work which the Rev. Jim Jones and the members of his Peoples Temple (Disciples of Christ) perform in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. As happens all too frequently, when someone actually attempts to live out the commandments of the Christian Gospel, there is adverse reaction from the non-Christian community. And even, sometimes, from within that community.

Peoples Temple in San Francisco has recently found itself under attack from a few persons who were former members, in addition to a few others who wish to discredit the work and ministry of Peoples Temple — for whatever their motives. I do not attempt to understand or to speak to the motives behind these actions; however, I can and will speak to my observations as to

the ministry of the Rev. Jim Jones and his congregation.

Peoples Temple offers a tremendous witness to the Gospel of liberation and justice within our community. Judges refer young people to Peoples Temple for rehabilitation programs. They also offer services in training for youth around such skills as carpentry, printing, broadcasting, electronics, auto mechanics, tutoring, etc. All of these are vital ministry with the people of this city. This type of ministry fulfills a great need which otherwise would have to be met by the city's Social Services and other agencies were it not for church groups like the Peoples Temple.

ART AGNOS, California Legislature, Majority Whip:

Recently in San Francisco a number of people have begun to attach a political meaning to the work carried on by the Rev. Jim Jones and the Peoples Temple.

As a politician, I am aware from firsthand experiences that the leadership and congregation of Peoples Temple carry out exceptional public service activities without partisan political overtones.

While it is true that their religious beliefs require active participation in issues confronting the community such as supporting in large numbers the tenants of the International Hotel, 99% of all the work done by Peoples Temple is in service to the elderly, poor families, and troubled youth. On many occasions I have referred destitute people to Peoples Temple for help and they all have received it.

It is most unfortunate that some people in San Francisco feel threatened by this very simple organization and philosophy of service.

JOSEPH E. HALL, President, San Francisco Branch, NAACP:

I am writing to let you know about the outstanding work of the Peoples Temple here in the San Francisco community. Rev. Jim Jones has been a friend to hundreds of youth in the city, and his church has rehabilitated many from drug use, helped young people out of legal difficulty and anti-social patterns, and brought out the finest potential in people who were held back due to the hardships and oppression of their lives. He has established tutorial and educational programs, opportunities for youth to receive free job training, and legal and medical services for the indigent. His church has taken in senior citizens cast aside by their relatives, and children abandoned by parents and unwanted by agencies. He has provided a wholesome environment where people are accepted and made to feel needed and productive regardless of race, sex, age or educational or religious background.

ENOLA D. MAXWELL, Executive Director, Portrero Hill Neighborhood House:

I have known the Reverend Jim Jones of the Peoples Temple for ten years. During the years I have known him I have never heard it said that he turned down a person or organization in need, regardless of race, color or creed.

In my opinion his ministry best exemplified the life and teachings of Jesus Christ: What is the need, and what can I do to help.

For this Jesus Christ and Martin Luther King were persecuted, and many others were condemned without having done any evil.

DENNIS ROBERTS, Attorney (from a letter to Rev. Jim Jones):

I have been following with great interest the vituperative and defamatory attacks against you and the Peoples Temple which have appeared in New West magazine and, more recently, reprinted in the Mendocino Grapevine. I recently saw the July 21 editorial in the Sun-Reporter.

I initially met you in my capacity as attorney for Dennis Banks. At the time of our first meeting his wife, Ka-Mook, was incarcerated in Kansas under a \$20,000 bail. The defense fund was virtually non-existent and the possibility of Ka-Mook obtaining bail was slim indeed. Then you and the Temple stepped forward out of the goodness of your heart and produced virtually the entire bail for Ka-Mook. This put her in the position of being free to help prepare our defense. Today, we got the wonderful news that the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in San Francisco held that the government's case against her must be dismissed. If you did not provide the bail, she would have had to sit in jail for about two years until she was ultimately vindicated, and instead of being free to be with her family and small babies. If I knew nothing else about you, this would be sufficient for me to sing your praises to every available ear. However, after our initial meeting I was so impressed with your good works that I started to do my own "investigation." Everyone spoke in the most glowing terms of you, the Temple, and the work that you have performed. You have consistently articulated the position of the underdog and provided the support necessary to stand up to overwhelming governmental attack. In so many cases you and the Temple made the crucial difference in the ability to withstand these attacks.

I am not a Christian and for many years have felt strongly about the hypocrisy of so many who called themselves "christians." It is only upon coming in contact with the Peoples Temple that I was able to start to reappraise this opinion and realize that there were people who did take their professed religion seriously and who, in fact, did live up to what I would like to believe being a Christian means.

JERRY S. GARDNER, Licensed Clinical Social Worker (Mendocino Cty.):

I wish to take this opportunity to express my dismay with recent articles being published in local newspapers and by New West magazine, regarding the Rev. Jim Jones and Peoples Temple Church.

I have known Rev. Jones for over seven years and have found him to be an honest, reverent, and Christian example in our community.

Temple members have been licensed by the State of California to provide care and supervision for the mentally ill and developmentally disabled. These Temple members have always been above reproach and among the most capable of providers. State evaluations of these facilities conducted in 1972 will bear this out.

It is unfortunate that such an exemplary man and organization must be subject to this sort of yellow journalism.

HOWARD WALLACE, Gay Action/Labor Committee:

I have read articles attacking Rev. Jim Jones and People's Temple in the last two issues of NEW WEST magazine. You may already know that this magazine was recently purchased by an Australian publisher notorious for his scandal-mongering and yellow journalism. It is with concern that the many good works of Peoples Temple continue uninterrupted that I am now writing.

For many years now, I have been a socialist and a trade unionist, an anti-war organizer and active supporter of the Black, Latino, feminist and gay movements in the United States. In that time I have witnessed a host of smear campaigns against all these movements. Peoples Temple is only the latest victim.

They are now an object of right-wing attacks because they practice what they preach--solidarity with the oppressed and exploited of the earth. The Temple's consistent struggle on behalf of democratic rights and against social and economic inequality is without parallel, even in San Francisco, historically a center of progressive movements. I am one of many thousands in this city who take pride in counting Rev. Jim Jones and Peoples Temple among my friends.

RICHARD GELLER, Vice-President, Unity Foundation:

I write on behalf of Unity Foundation in reference to the good works of the Peoples Temple organization. Here in San Francisco these selfless Christians have brought help and happiness to countless thousands with their free offering of food, medical care, education, job training, drug rehabilitation, legal counseling, and spiritual guidance....It has been our delight to work with Peoples Temple, whose honesty and credibility we have found impeccable.

**E. ROBERT WALLACE, Attorney-at-law:**

As a matter of introduction, I am a past president of the Bar Association of San Francisco (1975), a professor of law at Hastings College of the Law and Consultant to the Dean at that school. I am a lawyer in active private practice. I do not belong to Peoples Temple and my only contact with them has been as a result of our shared interest in a variety of community projects in this city.

I have had an opportunity to meet and talk at length with Rev. Jim Jones, examined fully the services and programs of the Peoples Temple and know their reputation in this community in a variety of sources.

In all respects, the Peoples Temple makes a major contribution to the social wellbeing of this city, particularly among the disadvantaged, minorities and disabled within our community. Those individuals who often find it difficult to assemble support for their position as they seek to obtain lawful and appropriate rights from our society find a strong and giving ally in Reverend Jim Jones and those with whom he works.

**ALBERT E. KAHN, Author, Journalist:**

I became acquainted with Rev. Jim Jones more than a year ago and in the intervening period I have been much impressed with the assistance he has given to the peace movement in this area, to Chilean political refugees who have settled in the region, and to the care and welfare of underprivileged citizens, not only among his own followers but also in the general community.

It is my opinion that in all likelihood the present charges being made against him are, besides sensational journalism, in part the result of work of agents provocateurs operating within his organization, and I hope that in the future there will be concrete evidence of this probability.

**MICHAEL R. SNEDEKER, Attorney-at-law, Prisoners Union:**

I believe their church (Peoples Temple) is one of the most important organizations in California. It combines strongly progressive social policies with a spirituality that makes our common humanity felt rather than simply known as an abstraction. The shortcomings of pure politics is precisely that it does not have content. The limits of pure spirituality are that it removes people from the world rather than connecting them with it. It seems to me that their efforts to combine the material and the spiritual into real existence, to effectively recognize the humanity of all races and ages, to realize the capabilities of everybody, to take care of each other and to take responsibility for the world in which they live, follows the grain of what must be done to build a fully human world.

I have attended their services, the first over ten years

ago in a remote rural section of California where I worked as a researcher and therapist in a large mental hospital. Their services are a unique blend of joyous music, intensely focused concern for suffering individuals, and attacks on the injustice that is part and parcel of our social order. I have known members of the church and one who left the church; he was a former drug addict who felt that he had gained immeasurably by his association with the Peoples Temple. I have also followed their work on behalf of people who were being unjustly treated and seen their efforts to unify the poor and dispossessed of this country into an effective force. They are a warm, energetic, and progressive group of people.

**CHARLES BRIODY, Bay Area Ecumenical Committee of Concern for Chile; Former National Chairperson of the Presidential Campaign for Dr. Benjamin Spock:**

I hope that you understand that the media attack on Rev. Jones is part of what appears to be a coordinated right wing propaganda offensive aimed at dividing working people that currently is sweeping our country and is characterized by a resurgence of the Nazi Party, Ku Klux Klan, anti-Semitic "New Right" and racist organizing - in a period of extreme economic crisis when such periods classically appear in many capitalist societies.

Knowing of the internationally coordinated fascist plot which overthrew the government of Salvador Allende in Chile, I cannot but be sensitive to the totally contrived and subversive nature of the media smears against this exemplary man, Jim Jones.

**JOE JOHNSON, San Francisco:**

I have been active in community programs in the San Francisco area for over forty years. I am a member of long standing in the I.L.W.U. - Longshoremen's Union, the Third Baptist Church and a Deputy Mayor of the City. I am well acquainted with the activities of Peoples Temple Church and with the integrity and character of its pastor, Reverend Jim Jones.

Concerning them I say without qualification that this church has been second to none in preventing crime in the city. They have donated thousands of dollars to city-sponsored fund drives for the purpose of creating summer jobs for youth and programs for cultural enrichment.

Too often clever and cynical newswriters, skilled in the art of withering sarcasm and satire can capture the imagination of people, take statements violently out of context and create an atmosphere where violence and harassment result.

On two occasions that I know of, this church has been burned, its members physically attacked, its youngsters



attending school humiliated and terrorized. In spite of these discouraging incidents Peoples Temple has remained a vital force for decency and dignity for us all.

The article printed by New West and others are typical of the forced of evil who would destroy a good thing.

**MARGIE BAKER, Supervisor, San Francisco Public Schools:**

I am very honored to be acquainted with the Reverend Jim Jones and the congregation of Peoples Temple located in San Francisco, California. Rev. Jones' church is located in one of the lower socio-economic areas of San Francisco. His membership seems to consist of members of all races creeds and colors. Rev. Jones and his congregation have done so much for young people who, otherwise, would be wasting their lives away. The Peoples Temple also has excellent programs for senior citizens, excellent health programs, and other programs too numerous to mention.

**CONNIE WILLIAMS, Owner, "Connie's Restaurant," President of West Coast Caribbean Association:**

I am writing to express my feelings about Jim Jones and the Peoples Temple. This church, for many years, has been a refuge for literally thousands of poor people, mainly black but consisting of all racial backgrounds in the country.

Because Jim Jones has boldly defended the rights of the poor and oppressed in this racist society, he has suffered continuous harassment and persecution. It is not only difficult but dangerous, as you might well imagine, to stand for egalitarian principles in our society. This automatically results in attacks by reactionary forces. But Jim Jones has always remained undaunted, and, in the face of it all, has proceeded with his work.

**ALEXANDRA HUNTER, Ph.D., Day Treatment Director, Westside Community Mental Health Center:**

I am writing in support of the Peoples Temple and their community projects. As you may have heard, certain self-serving media persons, seeking fortune and fame for themselves, are using the Temple and Reverend Jones as the means to their goal.

I am a resident of the Western Addition as well as a director of a mental health program in this area. I am very aware of the services provided by the Peoples Temple to both young and old, mainly minority persons of our community. These services would not be available otherwise.

**PHILIP MARTIN, Attorney-at-law:**

Although I have no personal official association with Peoples Temple, I am familiar with its work in this city. It is an unusual and unique organization, which puts religious principles into practice by working on the day-to-day problems of the people in this community. Its programs in child care, legal aid, housing, and rehabilitation enjoy an outstanding reputation. The people I have met from the Temple have been unfailingly courteous, enthusiastic, and public-spirited.

Recent attempts to smear the Temple here in San Francisco are, as far as I can tell, without any foundation in fact.

**JOAN A. BRANN (wife of the late Franklyn Brann):**

I am a member of San Francisco's black community.

Rev. Jones is being maligned by the press. This man is sincerely committed to the poor, the elderly, and to those whose spirits have been worn down by the vicissitudes of racism.

Rev. Jones and his congregation were a great source of comfort to me in a time of painful crisis in my own life. His response to those of us who asked for his help goes far beyond any ordinary call of duty.

**YVONNE S. GOLDEN, Co-ordinator, Opportunity II High School;  
President, Black Teachers Caucus:**

The vendetta against Reverend Jim Jones is not a new story. History is replete with examples of the persecution of those who challenge the status quo. At one level, Rev. Jim Jones should feel a sense of pride in being immersed into the ocean of a most distinguished community of humanity --- where justice, and not expediency, is the good to be pursued; where the legitimate interest of the many, and not the whim of the few, is the mandate of the day; where truth, and not consistency, is the goal to be achieved, and where courage is one of the exacting prices for peace of mind.

No less a stalwart than Martin Luther King found his entry into the so-called political arena by speaking out against the U.S. involvement in the Vietnam war, and invoked the absolute wrath of the well organized army of apologists of the status quo. Only the blind, the deaf, the dumb and the apologists fail to see the compulsive relationship between the latest avalanche of inconsistencies, half-truths, and outright lies against the Rev. Jim Jones and the upcoming elections in San Francisco.

We who support Rev. Jim Jones will continue to stand by him. We find solace in the eloquence of Thomas Paine:

"Tyranny, like hell, is not easily  
conquered; yet we have this consol-



ation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph."

CARLTON B. GOODLETT, Ph.D., M.D., Publisher of the Sun Reporter;  
President of the National Newspaper Publishers Association  
(Black Press of America):

Jim Jones and the Peoples Temple represent some of the most invigorating and challenging religious organizations to appear in California in recent years. . . . In attempting to use the moral force of Christianity in dealing with man-made problems that bedevil, haunt and dehumanize the social order, Jones has created a cyclone where formerly the political leaders, economic scoundrels, and even impotent religious leaders have failed the very foundations of their ethics, and their leadership mantles have been rent, torn asunder, leaving those pompous pseudo-leaders naked and to be viewed as the hypocrites that they have been for decades.

An institution that feeds the poor, houses the homeless, rescues young and old from the wretchedness of despair and drug addiction, marshals the political potential of a people, and husbands the economic pittance of the poor masses into a powerful instrument for justice, freedom, and equality, while building a just and humane society, by its very nature will have many enemies hidden, lurking in the shadows of greed, ignorance, neurosis and hallucinations. If such an institution becomes powerful, then it must expect its enemies to become powerful. While the New West article was intended to decimate and dismember and deter an increasing band of followers of Christian ethics, the great possibilities are there that the story will boomerang, and that which they seek to destroy out of this momentary irritation will become a potent antidote to the hopelessness and despair that permeate the masses. . . . Surely many good men and women of courage, steadfastness, and fundamental belief in the power of the organized masses will see in Jim Jones and Peoples Temple not a comet that momentarily lights up the darkness, but another reminder of the meanings of Edmund Burke's prophetic words, uttered before the birth of the nation 200 years ago: "All that is necessary for evil in the world to triumph is for good men to do nothing."

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## PEOPLES TEMPLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH TAKES LEAD IN ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP, RESPECT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND CONCERN FOR OTHERS.

Peoples Temple started a fund several years ago to assist the families of policemen who were killed by senseless acts of violence. "We are utterly horrified by this move to murder police all over this nation," Reverend Jim Jones told the San Francisco Chronicle. Since then, Peoples Temple has sent funds to the families of slain policemen all over the nation on countless occasions.

Pastor Jim Jones, who has served as Grand Jury Foreman, and as a highly respected member of the Juvenile Justice Commission for our county, feels the necessity of sound law enforcement to serve and protect our communities today and in the future. Local officials have consistently commended Pastor Jones' congregations for being exceptionally law-abiding. The Pastor's emphasis upon respect for law enforcement has resulted in a remarkable record for Peoples Temple members in helping many persons to become rehabilitated and successfully reintegrated into the mainstream of society. The Temple's program also has been an effective instrument for bringing scores of youth off hard-line drugs and guiding them to a life of productive citizenship. Some of them are now working in law enforcement around the state.

Inspired by Pastor Jones' example, the Peoples Temple congregation voted long ago to make substantial contributions, amounting to thousands of dollars, for law enforcement programs and for equipment that the Police Department budgets did not allow for. In San Francisco, support has been given to the Drug Prevention Program and a contribution made to the Police Summer Youth Fishing Program. In Ukiah, Peoples Temple has supported the Police Drug Abuse Program, purchased reserve officers' uniforms, financed a public address system in the Mendocino County Jail, and donated to the California Highway Patrol for its Drunk Driving Prevention Program. The Temple also helped to put out a booklet on junior citizenship entitled, "Laws for Ukiah Youth," which was circulated in all area public schools.

Pastor Jim Jones and the members of Peoples Temple Christian Church wish to:

**EXPRESS THEIR DEEP APPRECIATION** to Law Enforcement personnel who practice with valor the Equal Enforcement of the Laws, and

**PROMISE THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT** of vital, unheralded work in protecting the Constitutional Liberties of our American citizens, and

**PLEDGE THEIR CONTINUED PARTICIPATION** in Drug Abuse Prevention efforts, Reserve Officer Programs, Community Relations work, and in rendering assistance to families of policemen slain in the line of duty.

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## LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

"The apparent depth of respect which your congregation holds for law enforcement agencies in general and for this Department, in particular, is most gratifying and deeply appreciated."

"Your congregation's firm stand in support of the police is most vital and germane in the performance of their dangerous and endless task of protecting and serving the citizens of our free society. It is organizations like yours . . . throughout the country that are to be especially commended for the nobility of reason and maturity of vision in giving the most needed support to the efforts of law enforcement."

E. M. Davis, Chief of Police

## SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT

"You are to be commended for . . . outstanding service to mankind."

Donald M. Scott, Chief of Police

"The knowledge of your good deeds has been with us for a long time."

President, S. F. Police Commission

## FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT

"Those in police work are constantly aware of the lack of community resources and existence of viable rehabilitation programs designed to help our young people return to productive lives. Thank heaven there are individuals and organizations, such as the Peoples Temple, who not only recognize this need but are doing something about it."

"My congratulations to you and your organization for your much appreciated efforts. If we can ever be of assistance, do not hesitate calling on us."

H. E. Britton, Chief of Police

## CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

"The Peoples Temple Church certainly deserves accolades from those of us engaged in the field of crime prevention, for the moral, physical, and spiritual leadership it has provided for citizens . . ."

James M. Rochford, Superintendent of Police

## UKIAH POLICE DEPARTMENT

"I wish to introduce you to the Reverend Jim Jones and members of the Peoples Temple Christian Church of Redwood Valley, California."

"Jim and his church members strongly support law enforcement and they also respect the property rights of others. They have never trespassed, destroyed or littered. In fact, any area they visit will benefit because the grounds are 'policed' and all litter is removed prior to their departure."

"Any assistance you may give to the church members will be greatly appreciated. If, for any reason, you desire additional information, feel free to contact me or any member of my department."

Donn D. Saulsbury, Chief of Police

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STATEMENTS ABOUT REV. JIM JONES AND  
THE PEOPLES TEMPLE

## GOVERNMENTAL AND POLITICAL LEADERS:

"I am grateful . . . for . . . the work of the Peoples Temple Christian Church in defending the First Amendment guarantees of freedom of the press, in managing the drug program, and in running the ranch for handicapped children. Knowing of the congregations deep involvement in the major social and Constitutional issues of our country . . . is a great inspiration to me."

Walter F. Mondale

"Those who are most familiar with the works of Peoples Temple and of your pastor, Mr. Jim Jones, speak glowingly of the numerous social programs your church has established in meeting every type of human need. Your commitment and compassion, your humanitarian principles, and your interest in protecting individual liberty and freedom have made an outstanding contribution to furthering the cause of human dignity."

Joseph A. Califano, Jr.  
Secretary of Health, Education  
and Welfare

"You and the other members of the congregation are to be commended for your work to aid young people and for your commitment to reach out beyond the walls of the church to make Christianity a meaningful part of all aspects of modern life."

Mervyn M. Dymally  
Lieutenant Governor  
State of California

"It is indeed encouraging to me to find that citizens such as yourself remain deeply committed to the vital freedoms which the First Amendment guarantees, and are sensitive to governmental actions which erode them."

Sam Ervin, Jr.  
United States Senator

" . . . it is only through the hard work and commitment of persons like yourself and those in your church that our great social problems will finally be overcome. Let me express my heartiest approval, then, for the efforts you and your friends are making in your community."

Warren Magnusen  
United States Senator

"Brotherhood and equality have long been pursued by those seeking a newer world. Contri-

ductions by groups such as the Peoples Temple serve to keep these goals in sight and bring them ever closer to reality."

Philip A. Hart  
United States Senator

"It is always good to hear that the spirit of the American people is still as vibrant and generous as ever. Pastor Jones seems to be a credit to your community, and I hope his good works continue to play an important power in the continued well being of your area. Citizen power has always been one of my watchwords, and I am glad to see it in action.

The work of Reverend Jones and his congregation is testimony to the positive and truly Christian approach to dealing with the myriad problems confronting our society today."

Hubert H. Humphrey  
United States Senator

"I also welcome hearing of the fine work of your church, and the many projects which your congregation has undertaken, both on a community and a national level."

Henry M. Jackson  
United States Senator

"The Peoples Temple Christian Church sounds almost too good to be true . . . . I cannot praise its membership too highly. You are truly practicing Christians in the finest sense."

Mike Gravel  
United States Senator

"The Reverend Jim Jones has taken to heart the Biblical injunction, 'faith without works is dead.' He has translated his commitment to action. He has worked to alert others to the injustices which exist in our society and he has worked tirelessly with those who seek to correct these injustices.

Let me express my heartiest approval of the efforts you and the other members of your church are making to help the less fortunate in our community."

Philip Burton  
United States Congressman

"Let me commend your pastor, Jim Jones, for the dedication he is showing to his community and surrounding areas and also for the impact he makes on members of his congregation."

Ronald V. Dellums  
United States Congressman

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Ronald V. Dellums  
United States Congressman



"I only wish there were more like the people of Peoples Temple Christian Church."

Don Edwards  
United States Congressman

"I applaud your defense of the First Amendment (of the U. S. Constitution with regard to Freedom of the Press) and commend your Pastor, Jim Jones, for his actions in this matter."

R. Eckhardt  
United States Congressman

"Please pass on my commendation to Pastor Jones and the members of his Church for their Christian service to the community and to our country."

Jonathan Bingham  
United States Congressman

I enjoyed reading about the journey that the members of the Peoples Temple made. My congratulations to all the members of your congregation for setting a fine example for the rest of the nation in your dedication to humane ideals. I especially admire Pastor Jones for his ability to envision and lead these efforts. He has done a great deal to foster the spirit of brotherhood both in individuals in the congregation and in the rest of the community."

Leo T. McCarthy  
Speaker of the Assembly  
California State Legislature

"I have had the great pleasure of knowing a leader with tremendous character and integrity Jim Jones, who is the founder of a large movement called Peoples Temple. The members come from virtually every racial, religious, and socio-economic background. Rev. Jones is regarded among government officials, civic and religious leaders, and particularly the black community and working class people, with utter respect for what he has done to upgrade the quality of life in our area and to bring greater health and well-being to thousands of poor, minority, and disadvantaged people.

Rev. Jones influence for progressive change among the citizenry has been extremely impressive. His ministry, in addition to wide-ranging programs that reach out to every type of human need, also puts out its own newspaper to well over half a million people in this area alone."

Willie L. Brown, Jr.  
California State Assembly

"Ninety-nine percent of all the work done by Peoples Temple is in service to the elderly, poor families, and troubled youth. On many occasions I have referred destitute people to Peoples Temple for help and they all received it."

Art Agnes

"I am personally acquainted with Pastor Jim Jones and the remarkable services of his congregation . . . I am particularly enthusiastic about his program because it shows what the volunteer sector can do with dedicated individuals and it is an extraordinary argument against those who would adopt the view that the government can effectively respond to the social needs of our nation. It is fair to say that Reverend Jones and Peoples Temple epitomize giving of self and service to others."

Don H. Clausen  
United States Congressman

"This inter-racial church is well known for a host of splendid and effective projects which help people, including drug rehabilitation, senior citizen homes, convalescent-type homes, animal shelters, free legal assistance, and emergency services. The membership includes lawyers, nurses, teachers, community workers, factory and agricultural workers, and others who have committed lives to serving others. They are highly industrious, work well with other groups, and do good without seeking recognition for it."

George E. Brown, Jr.  
United States Congressman

"I was most impressed to hear of the good works your church is doing. You are showing the kind of commitment to social justice which our nation so desperately needs."

Bella S. Abzug  
United States Congresswoman

"Your pastor, Reverend Jim Jones, and your church certainly deserve commendation for the manner in which you exemplify a commitment to the precepts in which you believe. It is easier to claim belief in any religious faith than to actually live by them and your accomplishments certainly reveal the depth of your dedication."

Patsy Mink  
United States Congresswoman

"The Peoples Temple is to be commended for the active role it has taken in working for the preservation of press freedoms."

Lawrence Coughlin  
United States Congressman

"I commend you and your staff on the broad scope of community services you provide for all the people."

Cardiss Collins  
United States Congresswoman

"I am grateful that Peoples Temple is located in the Fifth Senatorial District which I represent. Among the many services this church provides to San Franciscans are: a clinic in the San Francisco church, in which 80 persons are seen each day by qualified nurses for general check-ups or in special clinics, a physical therapy facility for seniors and handicapped persons, a drug rehabilitation program that claims to have 'rehabilitated' 300 former drug addicts, a legal aid program where some 200 people a month come with serious legal, usually criminal, problems, and a central kitchen that serves 1,800 persons a day.

It is heartwarming to have among us human beings who are willing to get involved."

Milton Marks  
California State Senate

"Your contributions to the spiritual health and well-being of our community have been truly inestimable, and I am heartened by the fact that we can continue to expect such vigorous and creative leadership from the Peoples Temple in the future. By your tireless efforts on behalf of all San Franciscans, you have demonstrated that the unique powers of spiritual energy and civic commitment are virtually boundless, and that our lives would be sadly diminished without your continuing contributions."

George R. Moscone  
Mayor  
City of San Francisco

"I am very aware of the outstanding work being done by Pastor Jones and his tremendous contribution to all communities. Please extend to Pastor Jones and all his members my best wishes and my sincere desire that his inspirational work will long continue."

Terry A. Francois  
San Francisco Board of Supervisors

"I have known Pastor Jones a long time and fully agree with the testimonials he has received about his great integrity and of the spirit of brotherhood and love that he has brought to his parishoners and to all with whom he comes in contact. He is also to be commended for his compassion and his deep understanding of the refugees from Vietnam, and for setting an example to the community by adopting Korean War orphans.

Joseph L. Alioto  
Former Mayor  
City of San Francisco

"Concerning them, I say without qualifications that this church has been second to none in preventing crime in the Western Addition. They have donated thousands of dollars to city-sponsored fund drives for the purpose of creating summer jobs for youth and programs for cultural enrichment. They have sent some of their wayward youth to their large agricultural

mission in South America entirely at their own cost. This is truly an original, inovative and exciting program. If some of the youths that are in this program were left to roam the streets of San Francisco, the police department would have to have been enlarged, and many people would have lost a great deal of security."

Joe Johnson  
Former Deputy Mayor  
City of San Francisco

"I am greatly impressed with the ministry of Pastor Jim Jones and the Peoples Temple Christian Church, and feel that you are to be commended for making the Christian gospel relevant to the needs of the people today. Too often in the past the church in general has tended to withdraw from the real world of real people, and it is heartening to know that you are attempting to reverse this trend."

Terry J. Hatter, Jr.  
Special Assistant to the Mayor  
Director Urban Development  
City of Los Angeles

"I am aware of the good deeds done by the Peoples Temple and Pastor Jim Jones. I commend you all for the fine job our are doing in the community."

Gilbert W. Lindsay  
Councilman  
City of Los Angeles

"Your church is the kind of church that is, indeed, doing something about the problems in our community. It is good to know that we have you as one of the congregations in my district."

David Cunningham  
Councilman  
City of Los Angeles

"Your projects are indeed worthwhile and we need many organizations such as yours to work with people who need help."

Lisa Naito  
Hawaii State Legislature

"I am very impressed with the many wonderful things you are doing. I take special note of the efforts to help the elderly and to provide health care for those who cannot afford it. I join you and the congregation of the Peoples Temple of Christ in working toward the Christian goals of justice, equality, peace and fellowship. Only after we have accomplished these goals, will be be able to say we have a truly just nation and world."

Richard Gordon Hatcher  
Mayor  
City of Gary

## CIVIL RIGHTS:

"We feel it extremely timely and fitting that the black community of San Francisco should tender to you this simple gesture of friendship, encouragement and honor for your dedicated and conscientious work in the area of humanitarianism and the social gospel. Your acquaintances speak glowingly of your numerous social concerns, involving efforts to rehabilitate drug addicts, provision of housing and health care for senior citizens, the development and maintenance of an animal shelter, and your multi-racial adopted family, all of which we believe is encompassed in the Judeo-Christian ethic--that man is his brother's keeper. These are tumultuous times, requiring that each individual be ever mindful of the prophetic words of Edmond Burke, spoken in the 18th century: 'All that is necessary for evil to triumph in the world is for enough good men to do nothing.'"

Carlton Goodlett, M.D., PhD

"The Reverend Mr. Jones has worked tirelessly and unselfishly to inspire the members of his congregation and followers to become involved in community affairs and to participate, and thereby influence, the decision-making process to ensure the establishing of policies and programs designed to meet the needs of the disadvantaged and disenfranchized citizens of San Francisco.

Joseph A. Meza  
Human Relations Commission

"During this period when there are such serious problems with which our minorities are faced, it is encouraging to learn that there is such an effective effort which is being made by the Peoples Temple of the Disciples of Christ."

Roy Wilkins, Executive Director  
NAACP

"Pastor Jones and all of you are setting an example which, if followed by others, would certainly do much to make this world the place it could be."

Charles A. Ericksen  
Field Representative  
U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

"AS the head of an organization that has worked closely with the Peoples Temple, the minister, and the members, I have the highest regard for the leadership they are providing, and the positive

contribution they are making in the city of San Francisco. Their commitment and dedication to ending human suffering of the oppressed and downtrodden are unsurpassed by any of the organized churches in the city."

"Your background and willingness to work make you and the others from the Temple a great asset to NAACP, and we hope that you will be participating in many NAACP activities in the months ahead."

Joe Hall, President  
San Francisco NAACP

"Many Indian people when in need for family groceries have called upon us and when we run dry I feel secure because I know that I can place a call to the Peoples Temple and that these families will eat tonight. This has happened often. And it will no doubt happen again tomorrow."

Dennis Banks  
National Director of AIM  
Federal Indian Law Instructor  
D-Q University, Davis, CA

### RELIGIOUS LEADERS:

"No published list of 100 congregations in America showing exemplary leadership would be complete without your name on it."

H. Newton Hudson, Secretary  
Religion in American Life

"Peoples Temple has an effective social ministry attracting people who, normally, are rejected by society....I support their ministry and I only wish many of us were as effective as they are at Peoples Temple."

Rev. Dr. A. C. Ubaldé, Jr.  
Bethany United Methodist Church

"The ministry and witness of Pastor Jones and the people of the Peoples Temple has great meaning for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)...the most meaning of any single incident or event that has happened to me in the days of my ministry for 20 years as a pastor in this part of the church...the ministry of Jesus Christ, which is the action of God in the world, has about it more that is clearly revealed probably by the Peoples Temple than any other member church of the Christian Church....That's an awesome thing and I just praise God...."

Bishop Karl Irvin, Jr. Christian  
Church (Disciples of Christ)

"I keep talking about the extraordinary work that all of you do at Peoples Temple. All of you are committed to serve the needs of others in the name of Jesus Christ. This is true servanthood and when combined with love it is the most formidable force in the world....from my numerous contacts with members and staff of the church, I can say that they are the most committed and dedicated group of people I have known in any church anywhere."

Wade D. Rubick, Chief Counsel  
Christian Church (Disciples of  
Christ) in the United States and  
Canada

"I am deeply impressed by the ministry which you carry out in the Peoples Temple under the leadership of Pastor Jim Jones and I doubt that I have much to suggest to add to it. It seems to me that the kind of concerns you are dealing with and the outreach in which you are involved is exactly the kind of thing that I find extremely significant....Peoples Temple is seriously trying to be faithful in its effort to relate the

Gospel to the unmet needs of persons in situations of extreme crisis, people who are victims of various forms of injustice. May God continue His work through the ministry of Peoples Temple."

Rev. W. Sterling Cary, President  
National Council of the Churches  
of Christ

"The Jewish community in the San Francisco area has developed a great respect for the contributions the Peoples Temple has made to the total community. At a time when many of our efforts in local social welfare and rehabilitation are faltering, the Peoples Temple has produced large, creative social services which produce results. That has been a heartening phenomenon for all of us.

At the same time, the Peoples Temple was one of the first forces in the City to concentrate on needed education against the growth of neo-Nazism in the area."

Earl Raab  
Jewish Community Relations Council  
of San Francisco, Marin and the  
Peninsula

"Pastor Jones' vast ministry will surely attract ever increasing attention. One of Pastor Jones' many skills that I particularly admire is his ability to attract young people and enlist them in Christian service, even to rescue great numbers of them from the grip of drugs. That calls for tremendous spiritual power, which is rare indeed in our troubled time."

Father Alfred Boeddeker, O.F.M.  
St. Anthony's Dining Room

"The City-wide Planning Committee for the Martin Luther King Celebration has chosen you as the local speaker because of your continuous effort in the struggle for equal rights and social justice for all people."

Donnetar Lane, President  
San Francisco Council of Churches

"I have been pastor in this city for fifteen years and what that church is doing to enable human life for all races, all styles of life in this city is a miracle."

Reverend Robert H. Stewart  
First St. John's United Methodist Church  
West Nob Hill Parish



"The program of the congregation seems to be wide in its concerns, ranging from care of abandoned animals through orphans' homes, homes for the aged, financial support of students in college, legal services for the community, narcotics rehabilitation .... in fact, it is apparent that no human need is expressed without an attempt being made to meet that need. I have the impression that the congregation is ready, willing, and able to assist any human being with almost any problem.... One gets the impression of being in the midst of the human race at its best: a community of people whose primary concern is to love and to share.... Peoples Temple is led by a man of deep integrity and sensitivity....

I have found Reverend Jones to be perceptive, committed and dedicated to the empowerment of those who have been neglected or disregarded by normal processes and structures of our society."

Gerald B. McHarg, Assistant to the  
Executive Pastor, Christian Church  
of Southern California

"I continue to be impressed by the many ways the congregation has found to relate to its community and to the world."

Ian McGee  
Social Action Newsletter  
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
Department of Church in Society

"There can be no doubt that you are actively striving to diminish the injustices and miseries that plague men."

John P. Moss, S.J.  
Jesuits for Peace and Justice  
Jesuit School of Theology

"It is gratifying to know of other Christian groups that are deeply concerned about the welfare of mankind. Your church, under the leadership of your dedicated pastor, the Reverend Jim Jones, must truly be following the teachings of Jesus, not in words only, but in deeds."

Religious Society of Friends  
Palo Alto, California

"In all my dealings with Peoples Temple Church, I have found them to be caring and supportive of the social-religious commands of Jesus Christ, going way beyond the call of the Gospel in order to (as their pastor Jim Jones says) 'Care about someone else besides yourself.'"

Montford Cardwell

## EDUCATION

"The efforts of your church to live in racial harmony and equality are exemplary; you are obviously putting into practice the humanitarian ideals most needed by our society and by our churches."

S. B. Ethridge  
Director, Teachers Rights  
National Education Association

"You are doing an important job in an excellent manner and I commend Reverend Jones."

Robert L. Doctor, Ph.D.  
President  
Los Angeles City Board of Education

"I have known of the activities of Reverend Jones and believe him to be a man of great integrity and possessed of the highest sense of social responsibility. His work day in and day out to provide services for the destitute and outcast in our society and his activities on behalf of the church are a credit to our community. They [Peoples Temple and Rev. Jim Jones] are not motivated by petty political aims, but by a noble sense of principle sadly lacking in the nation in recent years."

Bill Maher  
Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Education

"It is Ministry with a spiritual message and active participation to follow-up that message that provide an inspiration to those of us who so desperately need a guiding direction in all religious experiences. You are the epitome of caring for humans, sharing and providing basic needs for each other, helping the sick and afflicted and educating the youth. Everyone's struggle is your struggle; your fight for human dignity is beyond compare."

"Peoples Temple Community Church services a broad sector of the San Francisco communities. Many of the outreach programs of that Church enable persons to move about in their daily lives with dignity and integrity that would be impossible if these programs were not available."

Yvonne S. Golden  
Coordinator  
Opportunity II High School

"I have seen the outstanding works of Pastor Jones in the San Francisco area. The members of his congregation whom I have known for a long time and whom I have recently met certainly exemplified the kind of training which they have received from Peoples Temple."

Approximately two years ago, my mother was hospitalized for a brain stroke and was paralyzed. Pastor Jones, nurses and his well-trained Missionaries would come in daily to help the member of his church who was also in critical condition. My sister and I were very much impressed

because they also offered to do whatever they could for my mother. The nurse would bathe the member for Peoples Temple and stay with her all day. My sister had recently had a back operation, yet no one from my mother's church offered to stay and relieve my sister while I worked."

Pr. was Mad!

Teacher and newspaper columnist

"Peoples Temple offers a tremendous witness to the Gospel of liberation and justice within our community. Many judges refer young persons to Peoples Temple for rehabilitation programs. They also offer services in training for youth around such skills as carpentry, printing, broadcasting, electronics, auto mechanics, tutoring, etc. And Peoples Temple provides more food services than does St. Anthony's Dining Room! All of these are vital ministry with the people of our city. This type of ministry fulfills a great need which would otherwise have to be met by the city's Social Services and other agencies were it not for church groups like the Peoples Temple."

Rev. Norman E. Leach, D. Min.  
Associate Executive Minister  
San Francisco Council of Churches

"Peoples Temple is a caring community of people of all races and classes. They bear the mark of compassion and justice -- compassion for the hungry and jobless, lonely and disturbed, and also for the earth and her offspring."

Dr. John Moore, District Superintendent  
United Methodist Church

"I have known Rev. Jim Jones for approximately 8 years and have come to know of his responsible commitment to poor people, multi-racial communities, and services he provides trying to bring about self determination."

We are pleased and honored that you will be with us on Sunday, January 16th to accept Glide's 4th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Humanitarian Award, in recognition of your leadership and contributions to many communities of people."

What I appreciate about you is that you extend yourself beyond specific situations and provide the experience of sharing in the cause to which we are committed."

Rev. A. Cecil Williams  
Minister of Celebration and Involvement  
Glide Memorial Methodist Church

"The ministry of this man and his congregation is surpassed by none in our denomination. Their witness in feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless and ministering to the sick and imprisoned is sorely needed in this troubled age."

Dennis W. Short  
Associate Pastor  
Urban Life  
Christian Church of Southern California

## LEGAL PROFESSION

I am presently the Municipal Court Commissioner appointed by the nineteen Municipal Court Judges of the City of San Francisco. For the last several years I have worked closely with this Church which consists of one of the largest memberships in San Francisco. Their tremendous support within the community derives from the fact that they are involved in community service. The Peoples Temple is well known for reaching out to every kind of human need."

Jerrold Levitt  
Municipal Court Commissioner  
San Francisco

"I deeply respect Reverend Jim Jones and the work which he does and all of you who assist him in those noble goals."

E. Robert Wallach  
Attorney-at-law

"As a former executive director of Consumer Action, I would like to share with you some of my impressions concerning the work of Peoples Temple in our City. Since Rev. Jones arrived in San Francisco, he has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of some of our city's poorest and most desperate individuals. Jim Jones has inspired thousands to think less of themselves and more about the plight of their neighbors. His ministry has earned the respect and admiration of concerned individuals throughout the Bay Area. Despite the great amount of public praise and adulation that has come his way, Rev. Jones has remained humble and remarkably self-effacing."

Ray Pachter, former director  
Consumer Action

"What would this world be like without people with the kind of dedication you and your staff display?"

Benjamin Ward, Director  
Protrial Services Agency

"Over the years our organization has had frequent contact with Peoples Temple. These relations have given us the chance to appreciate their humanitarian, conscientious efforts on behalf of San Francisco's needy."

Hiram E. Smith, seq.  
Executive Director/President  
San Francisco Neighborhood Legal  
Assistance Foundation

"... the description that you and others have given me of the works of your church--and of your remarkable pastor, Jim Jones--make it clear how deep and broad and various are your commitments to improving and humanizing society, and how marvelously effective your tireless efforts have been."

Anthony G. Amsterdam, Professor  
Stanford University Law School

"I am happy to hear that your Church, led by Pastor Jones, is so involved with some of the serious problems we face today, especially with regard to young people and young adults. I certainly wish to congratulate you and Pastor Jones on the excellent programs you have developed to work with young people, and on the excellent results you seem to have obtained. The efforts of the community and church groups is of primary importance in reaching young people today."

Charles A. O'Brien  
Former Chief Deputy Attorney General  
State of California

"Peoples Temple are experts in the First Amendment."

David M. Fehlow  
American Civil Liberties Union

"I am familiar with its [Peoples Temple] work in this city. It is an unusual and unique organization, which puts religious principles into practice by working on the day-to-day problems of the people in this community. Its programs in child care, legal aid, housing, and rehabilitation enjoy an outstanding reputation. The people I have met from the Temple have been unfailingly courteous, enthusiastic and public-spirited."

Phillip Martin  
Attorney-at-law

"You are truly a friend of the poor, the helpless and the oppressed."

Charles Lewis, President  
Legal Defense League

"In addition, it is good to learn of the good work and devotion of the members of Peoples Temple Christian Church under the leadership of Pastor Jim Jones. Your interest in and concern about the total field of correction is important and encouraging."

Fredrick R. Silber  
Bureau of Prisons  
Department of Justice

## MEDICAL PROFESSION:

"I have known Pastor Jim Jones quite some time and know him to be of good moral character, honest, sincere, and absolutely truthful in every respect. Pastor Jim Jones teaches Christianity, brotherly love, kindness, and willingness to help friends in need at all times. He teaches all of these things to his members, and insists that they live this type of life every minute of every day. One of his favorite expressions is: 'we are our brother's keeper.' This idea coincides with his teachings completely. He should be seen and heard by people of the entire world. This world will be a better place to live in because of Pastor Jim Jones."

J. Bruce Massey, M.D.  
Physician and Surgeon

"I have found Rev. Jim Jones to be a dedicated, trustworthy, sincere person who is endowed with an ability and talent possessed by very few. He practices exactly what he preaches, has helped numerous individuals, and all the while being a considerate, understanding leader of men. He has saved many from disaster and started them on a meaningful path of constructive well adapted behavior."

H. L. Perkins, M.D.  
Drug Abuse Program Director

"I am deeply grateful and proud to know people who are honestly and openly working for a better world."

Price M. Gobbs, M.D.

"The Peoples Temple Christian Church has, indeed, an impressive record of accomplishments, and we congratulate you on your work. It is through these efforts that human life improves and it is up to all of us to try in the most effective way we can to make the lot of all safer and more pleasant."

John F. Burke, M.D.

"This is a splendid and wonderful thing that you are doing and I wish to commend your Pastor Jones and his staff for encouraging your members to maintain good health and for providing medical services for them."

John E. Ray, M.D.

"Many of the world's problems would be solved if others participated as fully and with as much concern as you have shown."

Phillip R. Lee, M.D.  
Chancellor, University of California  
San Francisco

"I wish to compliment you for the interest and concern you have on behalf of the health and welfare of all children."

Jay M. Arena, M.D.  
Professor of Pediatrics  
Director, Poison Control Center  
Duke University Medical Center

"It is refreshing and gratifying to realize that there are organized groups in our community following the development of social welfare programs in our area with such close interest at all times. Your own community service projects is greatly appreciated as an even greater affirmation of your concern for the welfare of others in our community."

Irving M. McMillan, M.D.  
County Health Officer  
County of Mendocino

"I commend you and Pastor Joyce and the folks of Peoples Temple for the fine work you're doing."

Cortez F. Enloe, Jr. M.D.

"We are aware of Jim's contributions not only to our community but throughout the state. He and his congregation are continuously giving to their fellow man in a most Christian way."

Samuel R. Boynton, D.D.S.

"The Church and its leadership are to be commended."

James A. Lacker, M.D.  
Director of Health  
State of California

"We were deeply impressed with the work which your church has done in drug rehabilitation."

Lois Christopher, M.S.W.  
Chief Social Worker  
Department of Surgery  
Stanford University Medical Center

"The work of Peoples Temple combines the qualities of communal living with the sciences"



to nature, plus the spiritual concept of fellowship. I feel that if we are truly to reach the well-springs of better mental health, we will require to be set up alternative forms of living to that of cities and the human alienation that goes with them. Your work sounds like pioneer efforts in the right direction."

R. W. Shepard

"I am personally very aware of the valuable resources that the Peoples Temple programs are for the Westside residents."

Alexander M. Henry, PhD  
Director of the Pacific Medical  
Center Day Treatment Program

## THE MEDIA:

"It is impossible to adequately express the deep feelings we have for the members of the Peoples Temple who rallied to the cause of a free press during our recent incarceration at the Fresno County Industrial Farm.

To watch on television hundreds of persons marching in the Courthouse Plaza and to realize they were demonstrating on our behalf is something which we shall remember for the rest of our lives.

Even more important is that those of your congregation who were there, or who were among the hundreds in the church who took time to write to us in jail, understand the essential importance of a free press in this democracy of ours.

The unselfish show of human love and compassion will forever remain as an example to us and our families which demands far more recognition than we are able to give."

George Gruner  
Managing Editor  
The Fresno Bee

"I am very touched that your church has been so dedicated to issues of press freedom."

Katherine Graham  
President  
The Washington Post Company

"I cannot think of a person whom I've grown to admire more. What if more ministers were really involved in social issues? He certainly has my interest and support."

Julia Hare  
Director of Community Affairs  
KSFO Radio

"We at BLACK ENTERPRISE have the highest regard for groups such as the Peoples Temple."

Tamara Owens  
Administrator, Public Affairs  
Black Enterprise

"It is gratifying to see the evidence of the commitment of you and your fellow members of the Peoples Temple to freedom of the press."

Clayton Kirkpatrick, Editor  
Chicago Tribune

"In taking the action that you did, you set an example which should be emulated by all concerned with such vital issues as the defense of freedom of expression; and I am sure that your protest not only had a major influence on the outcome of the case itself but also enlightened countless persons throughout the country."

Albert Kahn, author

"I have known Jim for several years and have worked with him in the movement for liberation and self-determination of all peoples. Jim is a highly sensitive man, one who is completely dedicated to the cause of social justice. I have seen him under fire from reactionary elements, and has never wavered in his commitment. He is undoubtedly one of the most articulate and effective leaders in the United States today.

At the same time, he is a humble man who does not seek "to task in the limelight;" on the contrary, Jim has made a sincere effort to achieve accord among organizations in the San Francisco Bay Area, in the hope that unity will strengthen the defense against oppression, while submerging his own position in the process."

Carlton B. Goodlett, M.D. Ph.D.  
President  
National Newspaper Publishers

"You have done a tremendous job. I wish you continued success and, as a member of this community, thank you for what you are contributing to my city."

Steve Gavin  
City Editor  
San Francisco Chronicle

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

"I have been overwhelmed by you (Pastor Jones) and your congregations and your activities with law enforcement."

Winston Churchill, Chief  
Los Angeles Police Department

"We, as minority law enforcement officers, know of the work and accomplishments of Peoples Temple in the area of youth programs and activities that are of a positive social nature. The Temple's work and concern for senior citizens puts it among the best types in San Francisco."

Wilbert K. Smith, President  
Officers for Justice, San Francisco

"The Peoples Temple has done a fantastic job far in the central part of the City. After considering the outstanding work of the Church, your kind words take on a special significance. I hope I will continue to merit both your support and your respect. Thank you again, Reverend Jones, for inspiring the spirit of God and human fellowship to your congregation. We are deeply indebted to you for your hard work. With God's help, we will both continue to help men to live happier and more rewarding lives."

Edward M. Davis, Chief  
Los Angeles City Police Department

"Your Congregation's firm stand in support of the police is most vital and precious in the performance of their dangerous and arduous task of protecting and serving the citizens of our free society. Our allegiance to maintaining law and order would represent to all citizens, Christian and non-Christian, our dedication to the principles of free society in which no person would be deprived of his freedom to worship in the faith of his free will. It is our generations like yours and thousands of others throughout the country that are to be especially commended for the nobility of reason and maturity of vision in giving the most needed support to the efforts of law enforcement."

Your expression of warmth and sympathy for the wives and families of police officers who have been victimized by the lurking dangers of their profession is a genuinely praiseworthy and meaningful as it is in keeping with the Christian principles of brotherly love. Goodness and wisdom are inseparable, indeed."

Frank Kead, Director  
Community Relations Section  
Los Angeles City Police Department

"The knowledge of your good deeds has been with us for a long time, and we want to add our congratulations to the many you will receive. We hope your congregation will

enjoy the benefits of good health and good deeds for many years to come."

Willie E. Frazier, Secretary  
The Police Commission  
City and County of San Francisco

"I note the many humanitarian projects which you and other members of your church are involved, and you are to be commended for your contribution to society."

Donald M. Scott, Chief  
San Francisco Police Department

"Those in police work are constantly aware of the lack of community resources and existence of viable rehabilitation programs designed to help our young people return to productive lives. Thank heaven there are individuals and organizations, such as the Peoples Temple, who not only recognize this need but are also doing something about it."

H. E. Britton, Chief  
Fresno City Police Department

"The continuing interest and support of your church family is not only deeply appreciated but also most encouraging to all of us...."

Anne Bethele Daley  
Confidential Secretary to the Sheriff  
San Francisco

Jim and his church members strongly support law enforcement and they also respect the property rights of others. They have never trespassed, destroyed or littered."

Dean D. Saulsbury, Chief  
Utah City Police Department

"With support of people like you and the citizens of this country, law enforcement can go forward and make this country a better place in which to live."

J. F. Inman, Chief  
Atlanta Police Department

"Your support of these organizations dedicated to the maintenance of law and order - a very difficult task in these changing times - is particularly gratifying."

J. R. Fek, Chief Constable  
Vancouver (Canada) Police Department

"For sometime I have been personally aware of your fine programs dealing with the problems of inner cities and your outstanding moral and spiritual guidance provided throughout the United States. — The Peoples Temple Church certainly deserves accolades from those of us engaged in the field of crime prevention, for the moral, physical, and spiritual leadership it has provided for citizens."

James M. Rochford  
Superintendent of Police  
Chicago, Illinois

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/HR

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PA OR FOI EXCEPTION

a feeling  
of freedom...





THE AMERICAN PEOPLE  
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE  
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE





**“...a feeling  
of freedom...”**

—a collection of photographs &  
comments about the community  
of Jonestown by residents and  
visitors at the Peoples Temple  
Agricultural/Medical Project in  
Guyana, South America.



"...You know, people are so free here and they look so different. People's faces glow with freedom in their eyes. No more drugs, no more racism, no more rapes, no more prisons or jails..."  
—Basil Ragsdale

"...This is a dream come true. This is a whole new world—clean, fresh, pure..."  
—Mary Wetherpoon

"...There is a place for everyone here and something for them to do. No one has special privileges and everyone feels worthwhile and a part. I am so happy, and that terrible feeling of insecurity is gone..."  
—Penny Kears

"...Jonestown is pure democracy in action..."

—Johnny Deane

"...When we first arrived on October 3rd, it was about 6:00 p.m. and everyone was eating dinner. Then they all came running towards the vehicle to greet three people—all of them came up to embrace us, saying, 'Welcome to your new home, Jonestown!' It made me want to cry..."

—Conrad Fink

"...I was afraid of facing retirement in that one-room apartment, but now I have my own cottage. I have all the free time I want and still plenty to do if I want. I am so happy to be here..."

—Lillian Bryant

"...You know, we had good jobs and a nice home—but we wanted to retire in a place of beauty. Well, we came to the right place!"

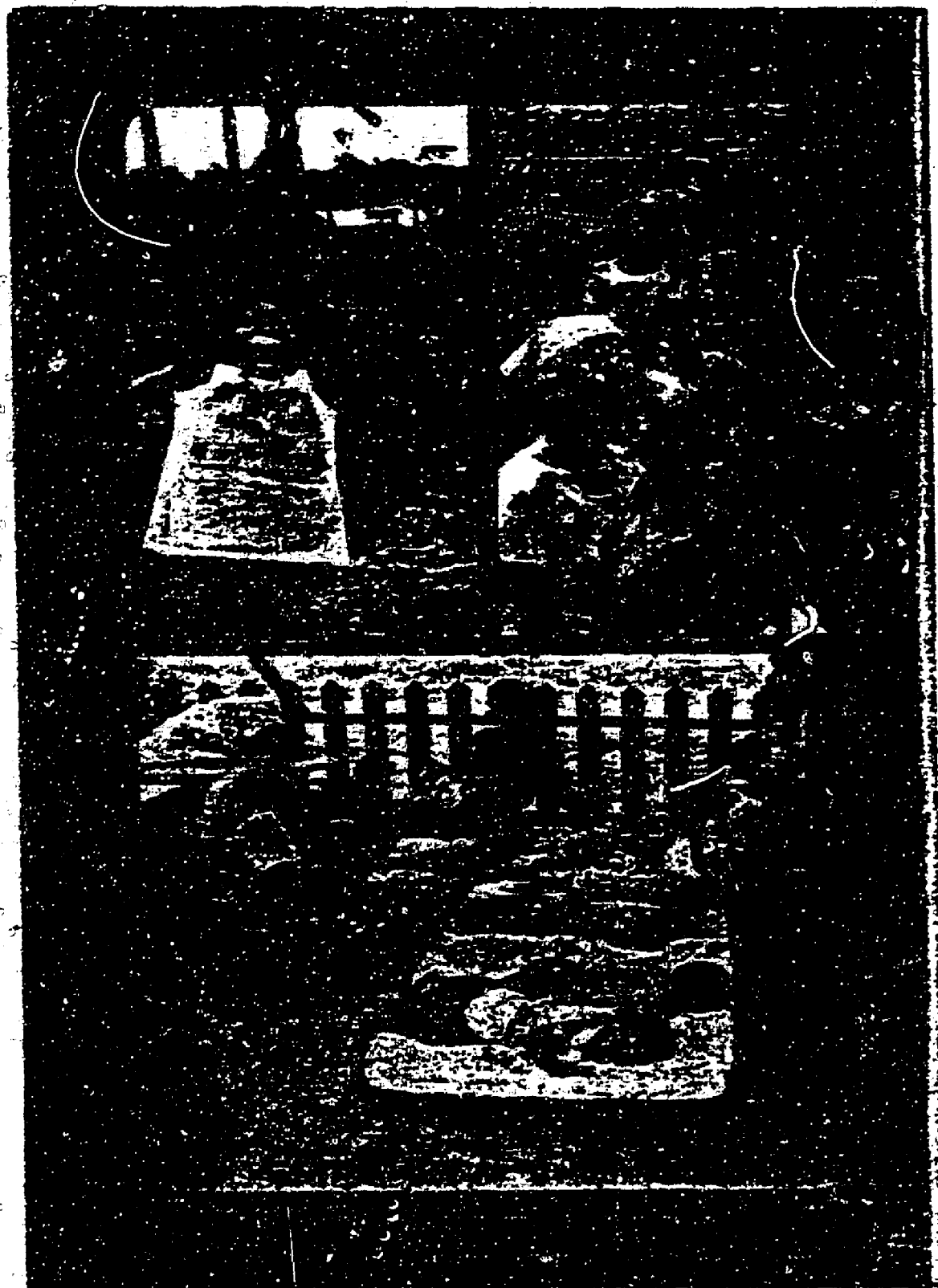
—Mr. & Mrs. E. Jones

"...I'm teaching a class in the Continuing Education Sessions and I've never felt so useful in all my 75 years..."

—Harry Moore

"...Jonestown is truly a milestone. Nestled in the most exquisite forest surroundings, we have every convenience—plus more: the best in social services any community anywhere can offer!"

—Dorothy Wesley





## ...a feeling of freedom..."

statements of Rev. and Mrs. John Moore, who had just returned from a week's visit at the Project, and Atty. Charles Curry, during a press conference held at Peoples Temple, May 28, 1978.

### REV. MOORE

Rev. John Moore: We have two daughters who are members of the Temple. One, the older girl, is a teacher, and the younger one is a nurse. The two words that come in my mind immediately, as I was there and as I tried to reflect upon my experiences were: "impressive" and "amazing." It almost boggled my mind to see that great clearing and to understand how so much could have been done in the relatively short period of time.

"We were ourselves out, walking around the facility. I think about 800 to a thousand acres have been cleared, and it's in the midst of a jungle, and that's part of what's impressive, and all except a part of the land that's not finally been cleared, has been planted with various crops.

"We went to the piggery, the chicken, to the dairy, to the mill, where the refining of flour from the tubers of the cassava [is done]. We were first impressed—certainly I was—with seeing the older people at the time we arrived—about noon, engaged in conversation with an instructor, keeping their hands and joints and muscles limber. And then we went to the nursery, the child care center.

"They have probably 25 preschoolers. I don't know how many they have in school. They have newborn babies; several babies have been born there. They have a day care nursery for parents who work, and there are those who are caring for them; and then they have the older people. That's really a part of the beauty of it, we felt.

"We talked about what they were doing, and what they were interested in, and all of them were engaged in some activity or work that was particularly important for them, they were about business which they regarded as important."

"I had a feeling of freedom. The food is provided for everyone, there's medical care for everyone, educational opportunities for everyone; there are work needs and opportunities for the members of the community. I think ordinary people with certain skills and experience move back these fields. If it's a tool and the miter in a machine shop, or a man in agriculture, they work in those particular fields. On the other hand, some people have not had the experience in specific fields. One of the great things, I think, is the opportunity for some of the younger people, particularly, to be learning skills when that opportunity is not present here."

In regard to the relationship of the project to the "house and government of Guyana, Rev. Moore said, "The school is motivated by the government of Guyana. They've had people from the Department of Agriculture and their agricultural stations there working with the people at this project. The health services are provided for the Agriculturalists or people who live in the community as well as the members of the project itself."

#### IMPRESSIONS AND OPINIONS:

"My impressions are, having just experienced our visit there, that this is a beautiful, lovely, creative project! It is extremely attractive. There are excellent medical services, excellent educational services, and it's a combination of caring and sharing with an added dimension, and this dimension I would say, is love--if you will so say that word. It seems it reminds me of a New Testament community, in the purest sense of the word, in the love and goodness for all that we observed. And with complete freedom for creativity! Those who want to farm, are farming; those who wish to teach, teach; those who like to cook, cook. They have an excellent medical center who is working scientifically all the time to discover new uses for the indigenous plants and grow the same, and is in contact with the Guyanese experts to discover new and useful uses for these various crops. That was very impressive to me."

"It was most impressive to see the elderly people, the older folks, who had their neat little yards, their little



Mr. Mann, the publisher has seen the last of me!  
— Charles Wesley





I was impressed by the medical center particularly. All of the older citizens live right around the medical compound. The medical compound is something that you have never seen and you probably won't see unless you go there. It's almost a miracle. This young doctor, who was trained by the Temple, graduated with high honors from the University of California at Irvine, has performed miracles...Every morning at eight o'clock, someone knocks on the cottage door, and says, 'did anybody have any difficulties last night?' Can you imagine the feeling of security that these folks have, to feel that somebody cares for them, is interested in them, and will do things for them?"

#### A FIRST-CLASS EXAMPLE OF COMMUNITY LIFE

"It was a very rewarding experience," he said. "I have never before seen so many people of varying races working happily side-by-side without a single spark of friction. With its own school, lawmill, electricity, roads, houses, and so on, all being scrupulously clean, I could not help but be impressed." *Dr. Ng-a-Fook, Dental Surgeon (from a news article which appeared in the Guyana Chronicle following his visit to Jonestown)*





"It's really beautiful here, and everyone has the  
spirit of simplicity." — Tom Rutledge



"...Right now I'm sitting in our Pavillion. I can hear our saws going in the background, people are writing letters, playing in Spanish class, or in our Agriculture meeting. I work with Tom out in the housing area...I build closets in the cottages, and do some of the finish work on them. Then Charlie gives me various jobs, too, like building cabinets for the Nurse's Offices, and Radio Room. I feel like I'm really doing something worthwhile, especially when I walk around the houses and see the things I did on them, or go to the nurse and she reaches for my file in the cabinets I built..."

-Kim Brewster

"...I have changed my last name. I am now Tobl Mtendaji. My middle name is Chekevu. Put together these two names mean Happy Worker in Swahili...I am now on the construction crew building these beautiful cottages the family lives in. I guess I am just now bringing out my talents here..."

-Tobl Mtendaji

"...Greg and I live in our own cottage. We fixed it up really nice. I've planted eggplant along the sides. On the left side of the porch is a bread and butter tree, flowers, and some beans growing up the house. On the right side of the porch are cucumbers. I'm thinking of planting a papaya tree in the back of the house..."

-Erin Watkins

"...This place is growing by leaps and bounds. New and wider sidewalks are going up all the time; more cottages to accomodate more arrivals; electric wiring, fencing, planting, painting, gardening, everything you can think of. There is plenty to do and everyone enjoys working..."

-Loretta Coomer

"...We make all our own clothes now, and we get just the style, color, and material of something that you want and you don't have to shop for it!"

-Itheaviana Beam

"...There are experimentations going on in many phases, such as making our own clay bricks, our own smoke-house, experimental herbs, and all different kinds of woods to build some innovative carpentry items with also..."

-Ron Sines

"...Talk about delicious food...you can't beat the menu at Jonestown..."

-Maria McCann

"...Your eyes will pop out of their sockets when you take a look at the beautiful piece of land called Jonestown. Words can't describe the beauty of this place..."

-Gary Tyler

"...The tropical rain showers are just like you read about. It is sunny and bright one minute, then all of a sudden the rain comes up quick—a gentle, steady rain. Just as suddenly, in 15 or 20 minutes, it clears up and the sun is shining again! It is absolutely refreshing..."

-Magnolia Harris

"...You should see our horses, especially the stallion—he is fine! I would never have been able to own a horse, but now I do..."

-Ronnie James

"...Maybe you've heard of the Ice Cream Tree—well, we really have it! It's called a sour-op tree and it produces a fruit which weighs up to 4 kilograms. It is green outside with soft spines and a slightly fibrous green pulp inside. When ripe—split open and eat it with a spoon. It's like eating sherbet ice cream!"

-Mike Ruzynko

"...There is a beautiful little waterfall located 1 1/2 miles south of Jonestown past some of our crops. It is a breathtaking hike down a jungle path, and when you get there it is a long, smooth, sloping series of rocks and two pools of water (after a rain you can swim) and even a vine to swing over the water (or in if you fall). A large felled tree lays over the water so you can sit on it in the comfortable shade. It is one of my favorite places here..."

-Barbara Walker

"...It is a beautiful tropical night. There is a cool breeze blowing. I can look out the window at the full moon, hearing people laughing, and I can see Jonestown lit up in the moonlight. All else is quiet—it is just a perfect experience."

-Laura Johnston



Watch over body (they) that don't know what  
they're doing. - Lena Henton



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SECTION - SCIENTIFIC

# Introduction

The Peoples Temple Agricultural Project was initiated by Rev. Jim Jones in December of 1973. He conceived of the project in order to assist the Guyanese Government in a small measure, to feed, clothe, and house its people, and at the same time to further the human service goals that have characterized Peoples Temple for many years. The government allotted 3,824 acres in the North West District near Port Kaituma to the project. In October of 1974 the first ground was cleared - a 30 acre plot that fell by hand and by machine, near the spot where 11 were housed in a bark cottage.

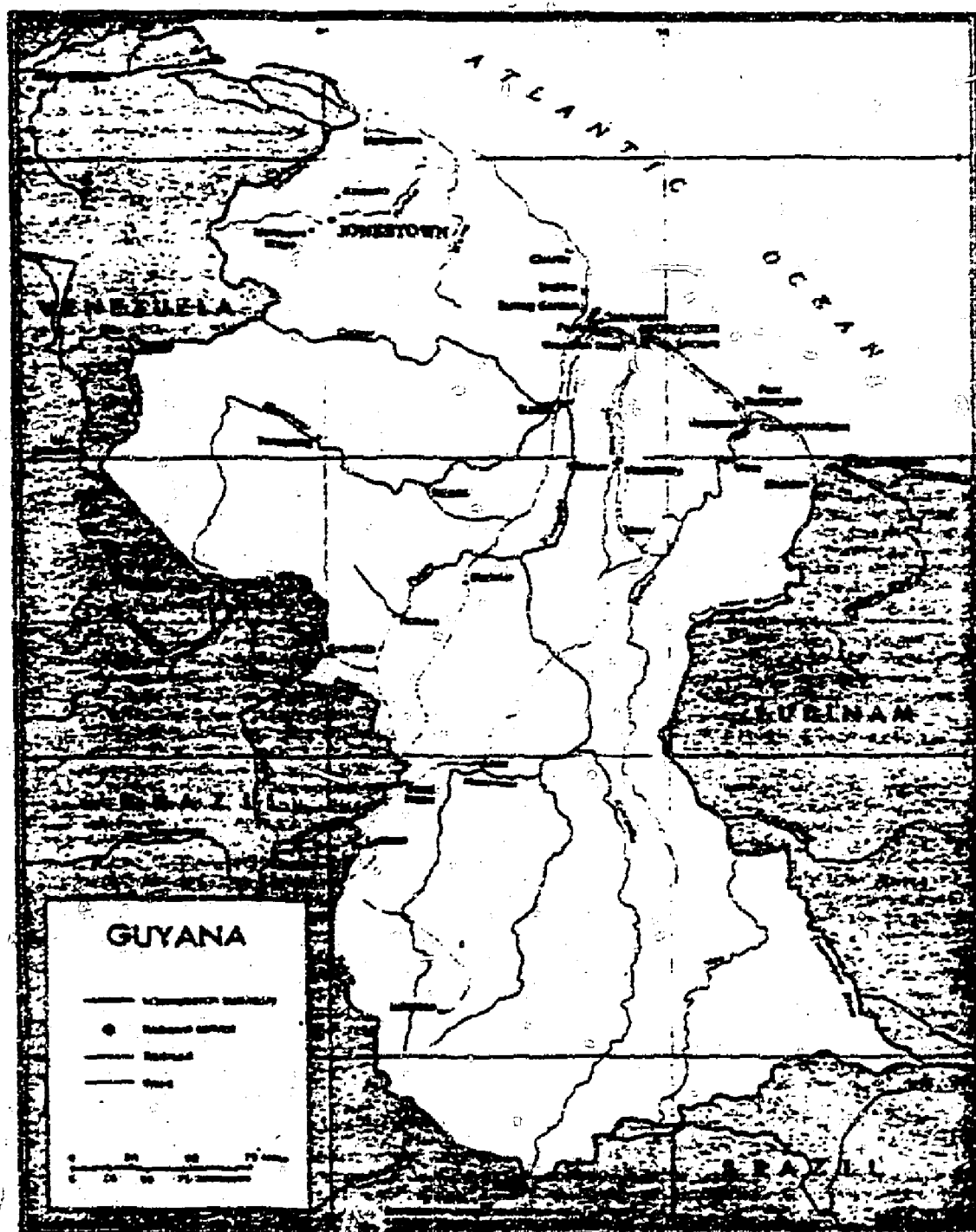
Hundreds of acres are now cleared and under cultivation, and housing for nearly a thousand people has been constructed, the last of the housing being constructed with our own pre-fabricated siding. The sawmill operates 24 hours a day. Other innovations include a cassava processor, a planter, and a hammer-mill temporarily in operation until the government mill in Port Kaituma starts into operation. We've acquired 9 vehicles, including 2 caterpillar tractors, a dump truck, a crane, 3 large farm tractors, a small garden tractor and a pickup truck.

The agricultural experimenters are learning by trial and error how to produce nutritious crops that, in some cases, have never been tried on jungle soil, and the settlers are learning the art of cooperative living in a wholesome, satisfying and challenging environment. Realistically, we can now expect that the farm will become self-sufficient within three to five years. In the meantime Peoples Temple members in the U. S. A. are contributing to keep the settlement going through these initial years. We are cooperating fully with the government's plan to buy local products, and we have begun manufacturing our own clothing in accordance with this plan.

The agricultural results are especially heartening to those who have put their "labor of love" into the project during these first few years. Other programs now under way are equally exciting. An educational program provides a balanced curriculum for 135 children, ages 3 to 18. Some youngsters who were said to have learning disabilities in their former setting are quick and willing learners in this cooperative environment. Many of the most extensive projects are supervised by young people whose talents never had the opportunity to develop before. Seniors who were wanting for something to do are now engaged in satisfying programs that enhance their sense of accomplishment in their later years. The cooperative kitchen, which serves three meals a day, produces nutritious and delicious recipes using home-grown foods. It also provides two snacks a day for several hundred people.

Guyana's healthy and pleasant climate (the temperature stays between 65° and 85°F. and the trade winds have a tempering effect), the wholesome atmosphere, and the constructive life style offered by this pioneering project have impressed us deeply with the role Guyana has to play in the future of the Caribbean and the rest of the developing third world. We are deeply pleased to be able to participate. The expectations of Rev. Jones and this government are stimulating our project to be a success of many dimensions.





## ***Guyana: a brief note***

Guyana, formerly the colony of British Guiana, achieved its independence in 1966. Though it is part of the South American mainland, Guyana has Caribbean cultural roots. The English-speaking population of nearly one million is mostly black and East Indian, in addition to native Amerindians, along with Chinese and Portuguese inhabitants. Free from an oppressive heritage of slavery and colonialism, Guyana is undertaking to manage, develop, and control its own abundant resources. The nation is especially rich in bauxite. Though the majority of the population lives on the coastal plain, efforts have been underway to develop Guyana's rich interior. Peoples Temple's agricultural mission is part of that effort. It is the goal of the Guyanese government to insure that all of its population is adequately fed, clothed, and housed in the very near future. Though a young and relatively small nation, Guyana has taken a leadership role in the community of non-aligned nations pursuing a socialistic course.

# Agriculture



## MAJOR CROPS

Major crops include the bitter and sweet cassava, sweet potatoes, eddoes, papaya and dasheen. Here are brief descriptions of our experiences with some of these:

**Eddoes:** This has been one of our major crops from the start. We eat both the tubers and the greens. We had to clear the original planting site, which was thick jungle. The felled trees were left for a burn, and the first eddoes were planted between the burnt logs. We are now planting in well-prepared beds, 900 feet long, 2 feet apart, with good drainage ditches. Shells, TSP, and potash are applied for fertilizer. We are weeding frequently, and expect a very good crop this season.

**Sweet potatoes:** Sweet potatoes, planted last May, are currently under cultivation. Based on our previous experience, we are planting in beds, using drainage ditches, and fertilizing with TSP, potash, and urea. We are dipping the slips in aldrin before planting for worm control. Our last yield was 2 tons per acre, and we're hoping to top that with the current planting. Our second planting, in 1975, produced potatoes weighing 11 and 12 pounds. Since our crop of "better potatoes" was very fibrous, we are growing only sweet potatoes and yams at this time.

**Beli yams:** The first and second yam crops did not do very well. The third planting was therefore done in very rich soil, built up, and the current vines look very healthy.

**Cassava processing:** We are temporarily milling cassava in a mill designed by our workers, using materials we had around the project site. Once it is set up we will take our cassava to the government mill at Port Kaituma. We can grate 100 pounds of cassava in about three minutes using this homemade mill.

We collect bitter cassava from the field in open, 50 gallon drums, and wash them in the trailer wagon through the jostling action on the way to the mill. The grater is a heavy table, 3' x 8½', with a hole 12" x 14" in the middle. Two iron pulleys welded together work the grater. The grater blade is made with a small three-cornered file, sharpened to make a small hole at half-inch intervals, with each row off-set to the last. We use a 5hp electric motor to turn the grater. One person puts the cassava in the grater, and another uses a cassava root to push the cassava against the grater.

Grated cassava comes through the bottom of the mill into a tub lined with a plastic feed bag. This is then lifted to the press, which consists of two heavy truck wheel rims, 21" in diameter, with a solid

bottom, except for a 2" hole for the juice to escape. Cassava is pressed against the sides of a cylinder which has slits cut about 4" apart and 6" in length. In the bottom is a set of 5 ribs, made of crab wood, 2" square with spacing to match. On these ribs is placed a lead cylinder to give better pressing effect.

The pressing plate is applied using a 10-ton hydraulic jack. It is set against a press frame made of wood timber. The cassava water drains into buckets and sits for about 30 minutes to let the starch settle to the bottom. The water is poured off into cooking vats and then boiled slowly for a few hours. It is strained through cheesecloth, then slowly boiled again until cooked down to a heavy syrup called *cassareep*. This is used in cooking as flavoring. The starch is also used in cooking, and to starch clothes.

The pressed cassava is put back through the grater and ground again, then dried on the floor. It is now about 40% of its original weight, and is mixed into pig feed. About 1,000 pounds of cassava produces 170oz. of *cassareep*; 100 pounds of cassava will make 50 cassava breads, 18" in diameter.

We have grated and pressed sweet potatoes by the same process as the cassava, producing a substance slightly sweeter than *cassareep*. We dried the processed potato. Some of the Guyanese have used it for porridge, which they said was very good. We have also produced a sweet potato flour which, mixed with eggs and fried in small cakes, has a meat-like flavor. It could easily be used as a meat stretcher. It can also be stored for periods of time in this flour state.

### GARDEN CROPS

In addition to the major crops, we grow all the vegetables we need for the settlers, including cucumbers, bora beans, cabbage, lettuce, and others. They are all doing well.

### FRUIT ORCHARD

We are developing a fruit orchard including many fruit trees native to Guyana. The trees are healthy and bearing well, though the fruits are still small because the trees are young. Our citrus orchard includes about 3,500 to 4,000 trees. We are also growing extremely healthy, fast-growing cashew trees.

**Pineapples:** Pineapples are thriving alongside the road leading into Jonestown. Because suckers were not available at the time of our first planting, we planted tops which we collected wherever we could find them. From our first crop we planted 600 suckers. Being large in size, these suckers quickly produced, but the fruit was small. We are now planting only small suckers or tops, which will delay the fruit for a year or two, but should produce larger sized pineapples. A third crop of 1,000 suckers was planted, and another crop of 1,000 is ready. We expect to produce beyond our own need in the near future.

**Bananas:** We are harvesting an average of 2,000 pounds of bananas each month. We first planted approximately 3,500 banana suckers in a mile stretch alongside the road into Jonestown. We discovered that plantings done in the rainy season did not come up, and only those planted in windrows would last. We have not used an insecticide to date, relying instead on ash from the burning and rotting wood to reduce the incidence of insects. This combination has also served to fertilize, so we have added fertilizer only once in nearly three years. Three delicious varieties of banana are bearing: apple, cayenne, and fig, plus plantain. A propagation field has been developed for rapid growth of suckers. We have started a few dwarf cayenne trees and five black banana suckers.

### EXPERIMENTING

Experiments with garden crops are conducted to test non-commercial fertilizers, utilizing ingredients "produced" at the project site. Onions, and some legumes such as mung beans, are examples of crops under experimental cultivation. We are also growing coffee. Sea shell, manure, and compost are distributed on one acre plots in 2 ton, 4 ton, and 6 ton quantities. Results show how much fertilizer is needed for best growing conditions. Long garden rows are measured for best proportion to the acre.

Generally, experience has shown that cultivars are acclimating, growing stronger with each crop. For example, the star-leaf sweet potato took seven months to harvest the first time it was planted. The last crop was ready for harvest in only 3-4 months, and some, the size of medium-sized grapefruit, were ready in 2 months.

*Cutlass beans:* In the face of warnings from some local people that the cutlass bean would make people sick, we have successfully cultivated it and turned it into delicious foodstuffs. The government analysis station in Georgetown reported it was a good source of protein. We also use it for stock and animal feed and green manure. If we have enough seeds, we roast them for excellent snacks. The vine, which is also high in protein, is used for animals only at this time, but we expect to develop recipes using it for the settlers as well. Its excellent qualities were discovered when someone "took a chance" and ate it. It is a particularly valuable crop because it will grow anywhere, any time, and in any weather, requiring only one weeding and little fertilizer.

#### A HOME MADE PLANTER

Using odds and ends from around the project site, like bicycle sprockets and chain, we created a mechanical planter that enabled us to plant 5 acres in an 8-hour day. We have since then converted our spring-tooth cultivator into a planter that covered the 5 acres in 3½ hours, using one driver and four other people. This job previously took 20-60 workers 3 to 5 days to complete.

Here's how we did it: We reset the cultivator tines to match the furrows made by the wheel. Then we made a seat of boards that sits on top of the cultivator, large enough to hold four people at one time. Three-foot hoses are connected to the tines at one end, and to funnels made with cut-off plastic bleach bottles at the other end. The seeds are dropped through the funnels and the hoses to a pan set on the tines, from which they are dropped to the furrows. Another tine then follows to cover the furrows. The planter addition can be removed in one piece when the cultivator is needed for its usual purpose.

We similarly fashioned a homemade corn shaker, using wooden frames with mesh screens to shake the corn so we can clean out broken pieces of cob.



# Experiments in Planting

## BUSH TEA

We have been introduced to many bush teas by the Amerindians. The list consists of Sarsaparilla, Cupa, Locust Bark, Rose of the Mountain Bark, and Copadula. We started out making it as time permitted. Now, we substitute it for regular iced tea at supper. We add sugar and mint to taste, and we've found that it is good for the back and also as a diuretic.

## WINDROW PLANTING

We have found that many things grow well in windrows. The only drawback is the control of weeds. As suggested by Guyanese, we grow watermelons, tomatoes, squash, hot peppers, cucumbers and papayas. All do well when properly weeded.

*Papaya planting:* To date, we have had the best results with papayas when they are planted in windrows. We will continue to plant in the windrows, but we are presently experimenting by interplanting with the eddoes. (These are eddoes without germination.) We will try orchard planting soon. We have found that manure helps to bring more and bigger fruit.

*Asparagus:* Our asparagus has been growing here for over two years. We got one seed to grow from a package and then the roots multiplied up to 36. We finally got some of our own seeds to grow and we now have 140 new plants started. The adult asparagus is growing the size of an ordinary man's middle finger.

*Celery:* We have been getting some medium-sized stalks so far. We are now preparing a seven-row flat area, with heavy organic matter. We will flood this area with water most of the time. This should give us normal-sized stalks.

*Egg-plants, or Boulangers:* Boulangers have been a good supply of food. The plant has to be fertilized every two weeks with potash and urea. We are also trying to breed our own type of boulanger because we have a more difficult time getting seed to reproduce in kind. We prefer the local variety.

*Experiments with beans:* We have a bean program aimed at finding out which kinds grow well here, and which type grow well in wet or dry seasons. Bora beans do very well in either wet or dry seasons. The exception is the hard bora bean, which still grows well in wet or dry seasons, but doesn't produce during the wet season.

We have found a black bean which is both a snap bean and a dry bean, which grows very well during the rainy season. We are now experimenting with the Winged bean. The Pinto bean grows well here, in the normal growing seasons. It is a very good eating bean. The Blackeye and Kidney beans are handled by the main farm crew. We are developing the Soybean seed from a type that has been growing for six generations.

*Tomatoes:* Although we have grown some in the windrows, we have had a raised earth section supported by aluminum roofing and a plastic canopy. This cover has been effective in keeping out the rain. The tomatoes grown here have been very high quality.

*Carrots:* These have also been grown in with the tomatoes, with varied success.

*Cucumbers:* These grow well with plenty of water, but they have to be planted before the rainy season starts for them to grow. They require plenty of potash and urea.

*Onions and Shallots:* The only way that we have had success in growing onions is to plant the adult onion, and have it multiply just like a shallot. Shallots grow well here with adequate fertilization. We add TSP after 21 days.

## SEEDLINGS

We have used both seed boxes and seed beds to start seedlings. Both have worked well. The drawback is that, in the rainy season, there is too much damping off. The lack of sun is the worst problem. We intend to build a hot house in order to grow seedlings during the rainy season.

# Soil Preparation

We have started a long range program to improve the soil. We are digging a pit the length of a row four feet wide and three feet deep. In this way, we bury off the fall from the food processing pavillion. This improves the soil at a deeper level than is possible with other methods.

## FERTILIZATION

Soil testing in corroboration with the government's soil survey has shown the need for shell, manure, and TSP as the most effective combination for planting most crops here at Jonestown.

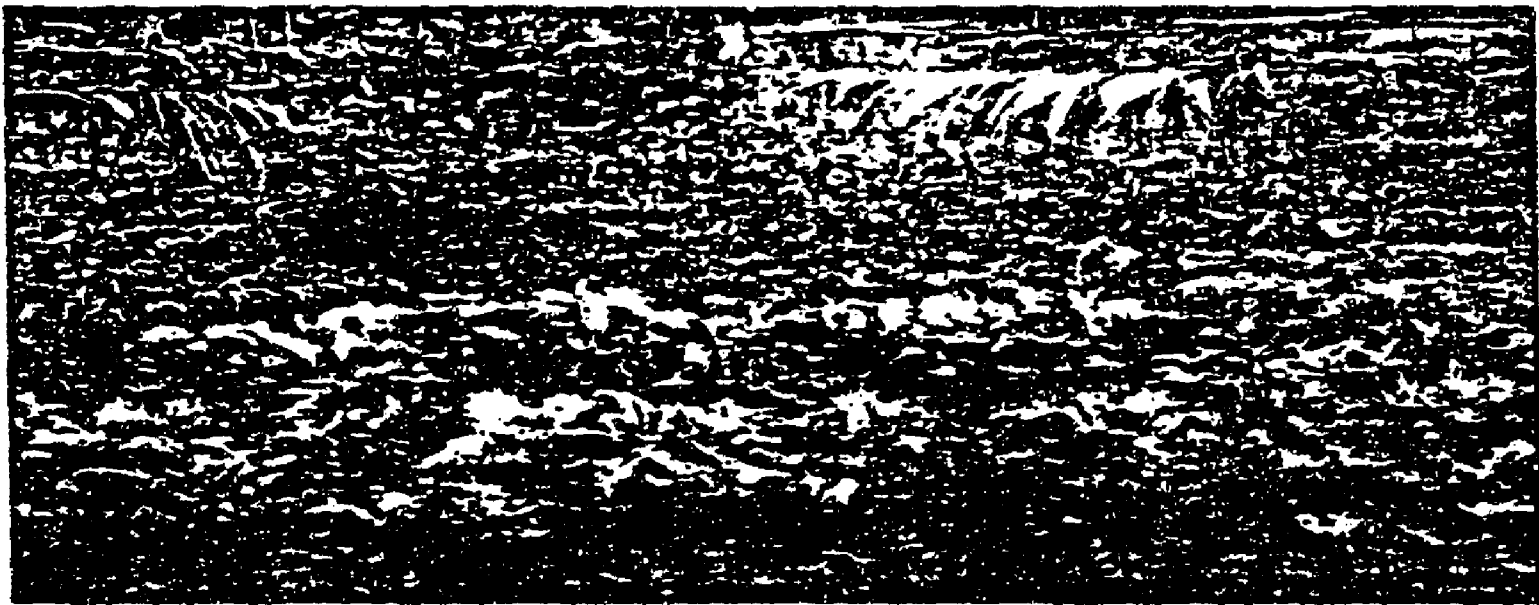
**Shell as fertilizer:** Dr. Tejjens, who has done a large amount of work with various state agricultural experiment stations all over the U. S., has prescribed the use of unburnt limestone at the rate of 4 tons to the acre as a minimum for clay loams. The many benefits include ion-exchange which makes use of the clay, and the humus, to hold back minerals which were being dissolved and washed away with the heavy rains. Shell dissolves slowly and has the additional quality of soil conditioning by helping to form small granules of earth for good tilth.

## COMPOST

We used a fast method for making compost, which was devised by Dr. Clarence G. Golueke, in his graduate studies at the University of California. There is a paperback booklet which has been our reference. Our procedure has been as follows:



1. Materials
  - a) carbonaceous: fallen dead leaves from the jungle.
  - b) nitrogenous wastes: banana stalks chopped fine with a cutlass.
2. Material proportion in pile
  - a) two parts carbonaceous waste — 8" layer.
  - b) one part nitrogenous wastes — 4" layer.
3. Moisture content
  - a) the ideal moisture content of the compost pile is to range from 70° to 80° when leaves are used as the absorbent.
4. Preparing the compost (the pile should be at least 5' high to begin to heat up.)
  - a) We used a combination of three bins, each adjacent to the others. On the first day, we loaded the first bin. We turned this bin into the second bin 48 hours later, and started the first bin. From this point on, we turned the bins each 48 hours, four times for each pile. Then we let them sit for 14 days.
  - b) If all the conditions are right, the temperature reaches 120°F in two or three days and 150°F in five or six days.
  - c) At the end of 14 days, the temperature drops to 100°.
  - d) A drop in the pH (acidity) takes place at the start, and the pile soon becomes alkaline; a pH of 7 (neutral) is desirable. Lime should not be used as it promotes the loss of nitrogen to the air.
  - e) We covered the bins with a roof at least 6' beyond the bins to control the moisture content and the temperature of the pile.
  - f) The compost is now ready to be put into the ground.



## Nursery

The nursery was started by gathering all the seeds, seedlings, small trees and plants that we could obtain in the North West region. Some of the seeds for fruits were started from purchased fruits. At our first opportunity, in Georgetown, we collected many more varieties, both small trees and cuttings. We have gradually added new types of fruit trees to the list. We built a nursery building to cut down on the amount of sun on young trees. We built waist-high tables to keep the young trees in an organized manner.

### POTTING SOIL PREPARATION

We used pen manure mixed with shell and the rotted wood. We also added any other organic matter we could find, plus a little TSP plus some topsoil. This was the mix we used for the pots. Just before the trees became rootbound, we planted them out in the ground. (We had cleared the land previously, in preparation for the young plantings.) The area around the nursery which has been used for an orchard, was planted in five different sections as clearing proceeded and as plants came of age for transplanting. We still use sections of the nursery to propagate sugar cane, bananas, and citrus fruits, as well as pineapples.

The total area covers five acres, and many of the trees are now bearing fruit. Here are the trees and flowers now growing in our nursery:

sugar cane.....	1/4 acre	almond.....	19
grenadilla -- vines all over the area		guava.....	10
breadfruit.....	47	pineapple.....	45
calabash.....	12	coconut.....	7
sugar apple.....	37	mango.....	17
soursop.....	28	pomegranate.....	22
five fingers.....	17	rose plum.....	4
sours.....	10	mammee apple.....	14
gooseberry.....	19	Bougainvillea -- all colors	
French cashew.....	20	avocado.....	32
cashew nut.....	14	flamboyant -- all over Jonestown	
jambon.....	5	red leaf bush.....	10
Barbados Cherry.....	42	bamboo -- many starters	
annatto.....	2	tamarind.....	5

There are other fruit trees of lesser value. Aside from these plants, there is a large section for citrus only, and there are more trees in the citrus variety, including Shaddock, which is a large grapefruit with red flesh.



# Livestock

## CHICKEN PROJECT

Two years ago we attempted to raise chickens in the tropics. We were unsuccessful due to our lack of experience and incorrect housing construction. Over these last few years, we have gathered information on the raising of poultry, and we received important information from local veterinarians and the local Agricultural officers.

With the information at hand on building the houses, we chose land that was on a slope, with well drained ground, about 1½ miles from the main house.

For buildings, we have built eight gable-type chicken houses, 24' x 18'. These are constructed out of raw material from the bush. They are round pole construction, with gutters along the roof to provide water, with drains which flow to tanks of from 50 gal. to 20 gal. The 20 gal. tank has a loose connection construction. Each building has a front door made from aluminum and wood framing, with hasping padlocks set up on the doors. The floors are clay, and are packed with a home made tamper, which is made of wood 14" square, with a handle.

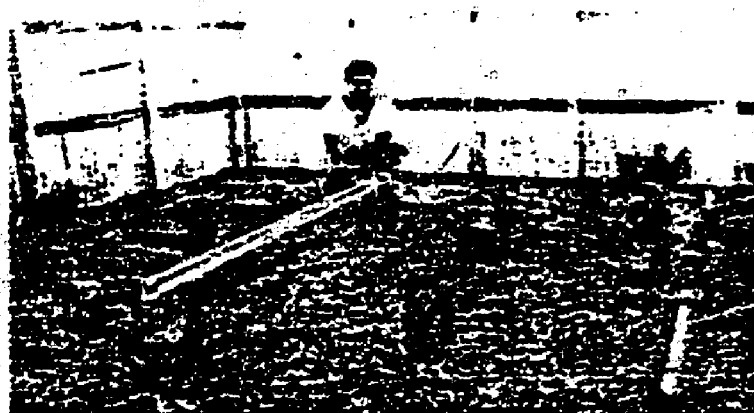
We have installed electricity, which is supplied by a generator. It provides lights and plugs for electrical appliances.

For litter, we use wood chips that are produced from our own planer, as well as the chips from the Government wood shops in Matthews Ridge, which are donated to us at no cost. The composted litter is used in the garden as fertilizer.

Each building has eight "tube-type" feeders. Four houses have roost-type perches, with drop tables 4' off the ground.

All our chicks are purchased in Georgetown, from poultry hatcheries at 5.65 per broiler. Their eggs are flown in from Florida, by Guyana Airways. The feed is purchased in Georgetown. We rent a truck to transport the feed from the store to the dock, where it is unloaded by us.

The feed for the broiler varies according to the age of the chicks. The first week, the feed averages 100 lbs. for 1000 broilers. We used 150 lbs. of feed the first week, 500 lbs. the second week, 800 lbs. the third week, 1250 lbs. the fourth week, 1400 lbs. the fifth week, and 1950 lbs. the sixth week. Chick starter is used for layers, and is given to them for seven weeks. They are gradually switched to growing rations, and then to egg rations at about 22 weeks.



## PIGGERY

We received our first pigs in August, 1975, from the Ministry of Agriculture. They were: 1 Duroc boar, 12 weeks old; and 5 small pigs, 14 weeks. The pig family has grown to 130 pigs of all ages, and we can now raise our own breeding stock. We have, on our own, manufactured various feed mixtures using, in different combinations, cassava, coconut, rice, sweet potatoes, corn and cutlass beans, along with the hay



of sweet potatoes. Equal parts of cutlass bean and bitter cassava have been selected as the primary feed, supplemented with bitter cassava tops and urea for additional protein. Putting the pigs in pasture on cleared land has helped their growth.

Our farrowing house, 100' x 25', is pole-constructed, with aluminum roofing. We are putting in crate wood floors which allow for adequate disinfecting for virus control. The feed building is 60' x 120', also pole-constructed, with a 20' drive-through so the dump truck can unload the feed.

## Sawmill



The sawmill, in general, first codes what materials are needed from the construction sites and the pre-fab house and construction crews. From the picking up and unloading of the wood for our sawmill until the finished product is delivered to the construction or pre-fab house site, each piece must go through the process of the chain saw, the edger, the planer, and the radial arm saw.

One of our sources of wood is the Wiani saw mill. We also obtain wood from various pit sawyers who saw the trees into 2" and 3" thicknesses. We get crabwood, an open-grain hardwood (also called South American mahogany) and use it for furniture and building. Our choice in utilizing wood over the native *troulie* is based on cost. *Troulie* (palm thatching) is becoming hard to find without going deep into the bush and for the same cost wood can be used, wood being preferable in that it endures longer than the *troulie*, and is more bug-resistant. We do have several of the *troulies* built in the local style which are very attractive, but we are not using it much currently.

Our fishing trawler often picks up 15,000 board feet of wood from the Wiani and then the tractors and dumptrucks unload these boats. All this wood is collected and brought back to our sawmill.

At the sawmill, wood is cut into boards, and some is fashioned into trim—frames, shutters, etc. All finished materials are delivered to the construction site. Also between all this the sawmill does finish work using silver bally and cedar, and keeps all construction sites supplied with appropriate materials (trim, siding, framing) at all times.

All cabinets are made and designed in our cabinet and furniture department. There is no end to what teamwork has produced in their department—fabulous furniture, doors, stools, shelves, cabinets, baby cribs, benches, rebuilt and modernized kitchen cupboards, etc.

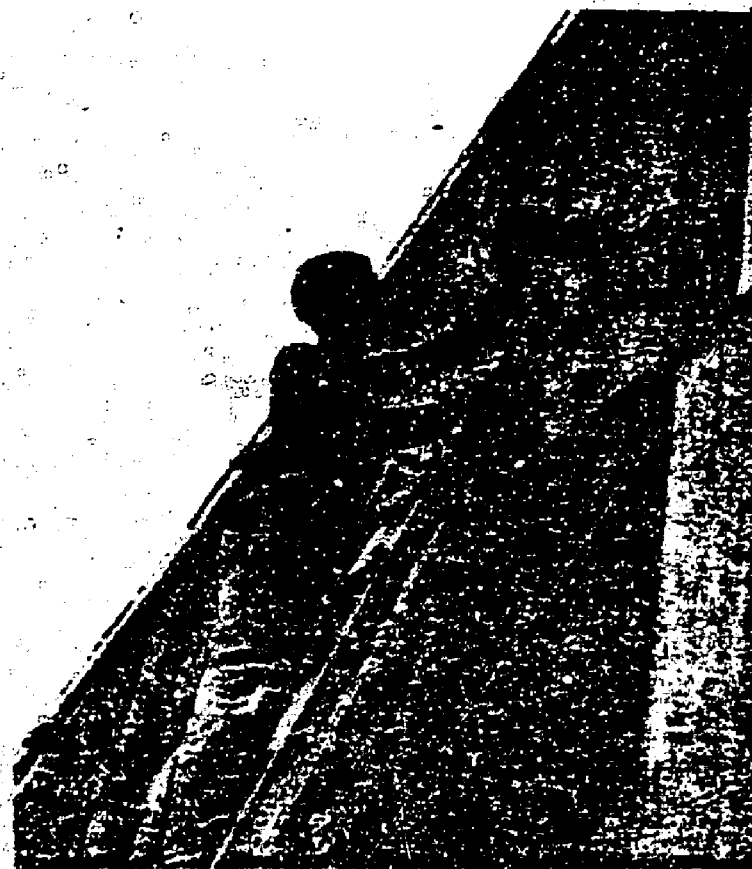
Our competent machinist keeps up the edger and planer, radial arm saw and numerous power tools. All this is carefully gone over by the coordinating supervisors of the sawmill who also collect the designs, drafts, plans and material orders to prepare the sawmill's schedule for the next day's or week's work. All scraps are burned for cooking purposes and the charcoal is used for fertilizer. The wood chips and sawdust are used as mulch on the farm.

### PREFAB CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT

The lumber is edged, sorted, planed and cut to correct length and angle before it is carried to the pre-fab building site. Here it is stacked on the appropriate pallet, which specifies its dimensions and purpose.

The prefab center is ingenious. In the 13' x 22' building is a platform 10' x 20' raised 3' above the ground level, to avoid stooping to work. This platform at first glance appears to be a bewildering maze of differently colored blocks. Each block is secured to the platform by screws and each is precisely placed. The colored blocks are color-coded channels in which the studs, plates, and rafters can be put into exact position to be secured to the adjacent parts.

This system is so efficient that a 5' x 20' wall frame complete with windows and door can be completed in 15 minutes. A 12' x 8" wall frame complete with windows and door can be completed in 10 minutes, rafters can be completed in 5 minutes. An entire 12' x 20' house, rafters included, can be framed in 12 hours by a crew of 3!





## *Jonestown School*

In Jonestown education is a way of life which affects all aspects of life. It is our intent to make education relevant to the growth and maturity of the child physically, morally, socially, intellectually, artistically, and finally with the goal of guiding the child in the acquisition of habits, attitudes and skills such as will enable the child to participate in collective thought, values and activities.

### PRE-SCHOOL

Nursery school children receive guidance, supervision of activities, and instruction. Most activities are group activities. Children are encouraged to participate. Curriculum includes learning the use of table utensils, cleanliness and health habits, number concepts, naming quantities, alphabet recognition, and dance routines with educational themes. Learning tools include manipulative toys, puzzles, individual chalkboards, and motor and perceptual motor facilities in the play yard to be described later.

### ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

At present the Jonestown School includes grades 1 through 7. Classes are not organized by grade or age, but rather by ability. The child can progress as rapidly as he/she desires and is advanced to a higher ability grouping when the teacher determines that the child is able to perform with the next ability grouping. For example, we now have an eight-year-old child working on a level equivalent to that of two thirteen-year-old students.

The groupings currently in use are: pre-reading, elementary reading skills and moderate competency, and those with moderate to well-developed reading skills. However, reading skills are not exclusive. A basic phonetic approach is started, accompanied by auditory training. The goal initially is to shift emphasis from phonetic analysis to sight reading as soon as phonetic analysis competency is achieved. Also, structural analysis, configuration and content skills are taught. At less advanced levels perceptual skills are stressed: visual, audio, tactile, motor and perceptual-motor skills which are fundamental to academic skills.

The school curriculum presently includes: language arts, receptive and expressive language which includes reading, writing, spelling and composition skills, mathematics, physical and earth science, social science (with emphasis on Guyanese history and culture), political science, and arts, crafts and music.

An emphasis is placed on development of educational games, activities, and materials utilizing materials indigenous to this area and parts of discarded objects. For example, many games, puzzles, and activities have been developed using local woods. Many individual chalkboards are used in place of paper and pencils.

Chalkboards are usually made from steel plate with chalkboard paint covering. They are handy because pre-developed lessons can be secured to the chalkboard with the use of small magnets. Miniature chalkboards are also used for structural analysis, syllabication, prefix, root and suffix study and math fact drill cards, as everything can be wiped off and the boards re-used. Workbooks and paper lessons are done with the use of a plastic sheet cover and a wax lead marker. In this way the paper supplies and lessons can be re-used many times.

### THE PLAY AREA

The children's playground at Jonestown is considered a vital educational tool as well as serving its traditional role as recreation. The playground includes many facilities designed to enhance basic body movement and balance skills as well as strength. The play items (which incidentally were designed by the Jonestown teacher and built by the children) include: a rolling barrel with an axle on pillow blocks, a great balance-developing device which rolls as the child "walks it"; a twenty foot stationary balance beam; a fifteen foot swinging balance beam; a bucking barrel designed to buck like a horse when the attached ropes are pulled from the sides; a twenty foot overhead ladder; double rings and trapeze bar; an acrobat bar (chinning bar) and two tether ball set-ups. Supplies also include basketballs, volleyballs, and nets, kickballs, soccer balls, baseball bats and accessories, badminton, and football. Central to the use of all equipment is the emphasis on cooperation rather than competitive values on the playground. Children are encouraged to help each other in performing various tasks on the playground.

### THE WORK-STUDY CONCEPT

Students are involved in more than just "school" work in Jonestown. They are actively involved in the development and maintenance of Jonestown. Each child is required with help to care for his/her clothing, bedding, and living space and to participate in cleaning activities including domestic and yard and grounds care. Children even take some responsibility for maintenance of flower and plant beds and lawn care.

Also, on a merit basis, good workers are allowed to participate in the numerous work projects underway. Those who become conscientious, productive workers are frequently given the privilege of assisting with special projects. Indeed, the playground was one such project. Students helped collect, carry, debark the logs and poles and assisted with the construction.

*(Note: This synopsis of the Jonestown School does not include a description of the vocational and technical training provided for young men and women beyond the seventh grade. In the fall, other academic training for older youth will begin.)*



# Medical Facility

In Jonestown we are in the process of developing an efficient medical clinic. We presently have a doctor and two licensed medical practitioners, one in neuro-surgical specialty and the other in pediatrics. We also have six registered nurses and a doctor of pharmacology with experience in teaching.

Preventive medical care is emphasized. Physical examinations are given each 6 months to everyone in Jonestown with special attention to bimonthly well-baby checkups, pre-natal care and follow-up for those with chronic diseases such as diabetes mellitus and epilepsy. A dietician supervises the kitchen aided by one of the registered nurses who prepares therapeutic diets and maintains a high nutritional standard in the meals served.

Therapeutic vitamins are provided for all of the local children who were malnourished before coming to Jonestown. Those with anemic disorders have been treated with supplemental iron preparation. Such treatment has been effective in treating many of the children of this area.

Our clinic is becoming well-stocked and we are prepared at all times to give first aid.

# Communal Kitchen

One of the first buildings one sees when traveling up the road to Jonestown is the all-purpose kitchen where meals and treats are provided to workers and residents there.

## THE KITCHEN

Three complete wood-paneled walls are designed to make the best use of space, working materials and comfort, including large shelved and divided cabinets and drawers above and below the glassy-varnished spacious counters. Commercial refrigeration and freezer units are used to store perishable items (when other means of food preservation cannot be used). Food is stocked to the maximum with edibles from all the basic food groups including meats and proteins, starches and all varieties of succulent fruits and vegetables. Our kitchen has an ice-making unit, two cooking stoves (gas and kerosene) and a large, triple sectioned sink. Water comes from a hand-dug well that never runs dry all year long. It provides water for cooking, drinking, cleaning, laundry, and bathing for all Jonestown facilities.

The front wall of the kitchen is a full length serving counter having large removable partitions which can be raised or lowered at the servers' convenience to allow food to be served while reducing the entrance of insects to the kitchen itself. Such screening allows for the entrance of bright and healthy sunlight, while maintaining sanitation standards.

A large work table is secured in the middle of the floor under which airtight, water-resistant drums contain sugar, oil, various grains, and flour. Heavy duty pots of all sizes hang from the center ceiling. A large variety of kitchen utensils are stocked in the kitchen (including knives made in our metal workshop, providing all types of useful cutting edges).

A large, Guyanese-style wood oven is used for our massive bread-baking during the drier season. Cassava flour is one of the basic ingredients used in our bread.

**Menus:** Menus are planned in advance to allow for food supplying areas to be filled and for the medical staff to check for maximum nutritional health and vitamin standards to be maintained. Almost all foods are home-grown and home-prepared. The kitchen is an organized center of activity almost 24 hours a day as work teams prepare for the next day's meals, or buy lunches for workers further removed from the central dining area in their day's work. Working in shifts on a team basis has been found to be the most efficient method and also allows for ample rest for all participants and maximum use of all materials.

**Meals:** Meals are always promptly served. Breakfast is served in three shifts. First, the outdoor workers eat from 5:40 to 6:30 am, then the senior citizens eat from 7:00 to 7:30 and finally the children eat from 7:30 to 8:00 am. Naturally allowances are made for seniors or for any ill persons to have their meals served to them in their residences. Breakfast menus include such foods as eggs from Jonestown

chickens, cooked cereals, pancakes and homemade syrup and varying fruits seasonally available. Biscuits, rolls, and breads are baked daily by the cooking staff.

Many lunches are pre-made for workers and are distributed at breakfast time. The bulk of lunches utilize sandwiches made of cutlass bean patty, fish patty, peanut butter, egg salad, fried egg, eggplant, or pork meat products. Nuts, fruits, pastries or cookies are added as desserts. These are eaten at sheltered spots right on the work site. Seniors and children are served a hot meal in the communal dining room.

The kitchen also works closely with the nursing department to prepare calorie-rich, nourishing snacks and drinks in the mid-morning and mid-afternoon for children and underweight individuals. Those who are overweight are encouraged to take advantage of low-calorie meals, especially dished up by our medical staff.

Our cooking staff is comprised of an RN (who once managed an Italian restaurant), and a number of experienced individuals of all ages and the menu planning reflects their various cultural and ethnic backgrounds, as well as incorporating all local foods and products they have absorbed from the Amerindian adaptation of local products.

Kitchen cleanup crews work on a rotating schedule. Each person carries out his/her specific duties in a quiet, efficient manner. The dishes are cold-water rinsed, washed and stacked, then washed in a soapy detergent with bleach and boiling water, and put away. The clearing process is carried on during and after kitchen activities. All surfaces are continually scrubbed and sanitized from ceiling to floor to provide the most healthful environment.



## Afterword

*The agricultural project has been financed entirely by members of Peoples Temple. Valuable in-kind services have been provided by the Guyana government on a number of occasions. We could never have progressed so far so fast were it not for the total cooperation given by the Guyanese at every step of the way.*

*We look forward to a relationship of friendship and mutual support between our mission settlers and Guyanese from every walk of life. We can only express our appreciation by trying to make our experiences useful for others engaged in similar efforts to expand and improve cultivation and development of the rich interior of Guyana, with the goal of benefiting her people.*



**Rev. Jim Jones, founder of the Peoples Temple Church and Prime Minister Forbes Burnham of Guyana.**

759

Rec'd Georgetown  
2.12.78

## Peoples Temple school gets official status

THERE is a new addition to the growing family of Guyana's community schools — the Jonestown Community School, up in the North West Region near Port Kaituma. Located at the Peoples Temple Agricultural Project in Jonestown, which has grown considerably since land was first cleared there nearly four years ago, the school has over 275 students from nursery through high school, and has been in full operation since September, 1977.

A delegation of the teaching staff recently completed a week of seminars and orientation meetings to help them function according to Guyanese guidelines.

The Jonestown Community School is somewhat unique in that it forms a fully integrated part of the carefully structured co-operative community. In addition to being taught traditional academic courses, the students are being trained in nearly twenty skill areas in the work-study programme (for example, agricultural, medical electronics, machine

shop, woodworking, clothing manufacture, mechanics, heavy equipment operation, home economics.).

"The entire community is actually a school without walls", explains Headmaster L.T. Crabbe. "School and community exist in a close, symbiotic relationship."

Already dozens of educators and students from various parts of Guyana have visited the community of U.S. "transplants" who are successfully pioneering a new life.

"This is a community school in the truest sense," says a Senior Educational Officer in the Ministry of Education, who toured the Jonestown school and project. "Every young person in the community is in the programme and every adult is either directly or indirectly involved with it also."

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR  
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Not  
copyright  
11/30/88

760

I, Timothy Oliver Stoen, hereby acknowledge that in April, 1971, I entreated my beloved pastor, James W. Jones, to sire a child by my wife, Grace Lucy (Green) Stoen, who had previously, at my insistence, reluctantly but graciously consented thereto. James W. Jones agreed to do so, reluctantly after I explained that I very much wished to raise a child, but was unable, after extensive attempts, to sire one myself. My reason for requesting James W. Jones to do this is that I wanted my child to be fathered, if not by me, by the most compassionate, honest, and courageous human being the world contains.

The child, John Victor Stoen, was born on January 25, 1972. I am privileged beyond words to have the responsibility for caring for him, and I undertake this task humbly with the steadiest hope that said child will become a devoted follower of Jesus Christ and be instrumental in bringing God's kingdom here on earth, as has been his wonderful natural father.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Timothy Oliver Stoen  
Post Office Box 126  
Unish, California 95482

Dated: February 6, 1972

Witnessed: \_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
VIEWED BY <u>J. L. Smith</u>	DATE <u>2/1/82</u>
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for  
an initial check

7

762

Rec'd by Georgetown  
11/30/78


25th April, 1977

Mr. M.H. Hooper  
General Manager,  
Guyana Stores Ltd.  
Agency Division

Dear sir,

Peoples Temple is a non-profit, humanitarian service group committed to meeting the needs of people for food, clothing, and other basic necessities of life. It has started an agricultural mission in the hinterland to assist in this country's PCH programme, a project which should be self-sufficient in 6 years. The members of Peoples Temple include skilled technicians, professionals, and field workers, who donate their services and time without pay. In addition, children in need of a loving home are being taken in.

Any donation of goods or other assistance you can make to this humanitarian work would be immeasurably appreciated. Thank you so much for whatever you can do.

Sincerely,

*Paula Adams*  
Paula Adams

Peoples Temple  
P.O. Box 893  
Georgetown

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/IN

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

EDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_

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*JP*  
*5/8/78*

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20 APR 1977

**STAFF**  
Gallant T. Graham  
Martin L. Kennedy  
Jackie J. Kirkham

reid <sup>h</sup> ~~corruption~~  
1934

**August 2, 1977**

**COMMITTEE**

[From M. Allen  
James M. Allen  
John P. Austin  
Pauline Allen Sobocel  
\*Cynthia Ester  
George A. Blanch  
\*Clairine V. Bonner  
Dane E. Borden  
\*Alexander L. Brimmond  
Richard M. Bryan  
Barry L. Bushnell  
\*James T. Calhoun  
Richard H. Carlson  
Edward G. Chandler  
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\*Charles H. Clifford  
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\*Walter K. Coates  
John M. Colette  
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\*William C. Minkoff III  
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\*David M. Minkoff  
\*David E. Minkoff  
\*Bernard Minkoff  
\*Eugene M. Minkoff  
\*Thomas M. Minkoff, Jr.  
\*Henry M. Minkoff  
\*Henry M. Minkoff, Jr.  
\*Allen J. Minkoff  
\*Edward M. Minkoff  
\*Edward M. Minkoff  
\*Thomas F. Minkoff, Jr.  
\*Yoshiko Minkoff  
\*Robert G. Minkoff, Jr.  
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\*David Minkoff  
\*David T. Minkoff  
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\*David M. Minkoff  
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\*Michael Minkoff  
\*Edward Minkoff  
\*Howard M. Minkoff  
\*Henry A. Minkoff  
\*John J. Minkoff  
\*Jerry S. Minkoff

**Finance Committee**  
\*Eugene Minkoff

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/WR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_

EXEMPT EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

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RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

I am writing to express my views of the very fine work being done by the Peoples Temple. I have attended services at the Temple in San Francisco and taken a tour of their facilities. I was favorably impressed by their very strong spirit and morale of the people working at the Temple, and by the programs in which they were involved. The Temple has vigorous programs involving serving free food to mainly poor, elderly people; job-training programs; a printing shop and facilities; a program training people in media work; a thorough school involved in the basics, drama, art and other curricula; several thriving business enterprises; as well as a very moving religious exercise. The members of Peoples Temple appear deeply committed to the cause of social justice, and to the dedicated efforts of their Reverend Jim Jones and other members of the church in addressing existing social injustices.

I am sure that the people of Guyana will similarly benefit from the programs taking place in your country.

Very truly yours

Gilbert T. Graham

GTG/jjk



KSFO/560

950 California Street  
San Francisco, California 94108  
(415) 398-5600

field Georgetown

11/26/77

764

JULIA HARE  
Director of Community Affairs

Prime Minister Forbes Burnham  
Government Building  
Brickdam Georgetown  
Guyana, South America

Dear Honorable Forbes Burnham:

The Reverend Jim Jones and the Peoples Temple have recently come under what appears to be undue fire from certain quarters.

I have visited Reverend Jones' church and was struck by the spirit of the services, the compassion and goodwill displayed, the apparent good work, the use of Afro-American culture as I have never seen it before. Outside the church in the community at large, I have seen young black men and women members of the church, once crippled by feelings of inferiority, now walk with pride and dignity and a positive bearing with a clear sense of purpose.

Reverend Jones' baptism by the fire of reactionary wrath was of course predictable. Long before Socrates and Jesus Christ to Martin Luther King and John F. Kennedy, men and women have been persecuted and gone to their deaths whenever they show promise of organizing people and society--successfully--for human good. Today, as we now know from COINTELPRO and the confessions of the FBI, the CIA and the Watergate burglars, persecution incorporates official and scientific prosecution whose method is infiltration.

Members of the black bourgeoisie complain that his membership is predominantly black and in the black community where he should have no place. Nor would he, if the black ministers were not failing their roles. The thing that most came home to me on my visit to the church was a sense of the failure of black church leadership. Reverend Jones has provided them a model of their mission in life, God's mandate to them, their call to preach. In terms of cries

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/WR	
August 10, 1977	
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PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS	

that the temple operates with the heavy hand of discipline and financial demands on members, I can testify that I have witnessed in churches throughout the country, including an Anniversary celebration of the president of a major black denomination where he stood and milked contributions by the hundreds of dollars each from elderly women pensioners and widows. And there is far more than I could say out of my experience and observations since early childhood, variously as member, organist and minister of music, the latter for the oldest black church in the United States in Petersburg, Virginia.

The Reverend Ike openly demands high pay from his followers and flaunts it. Why is there not an investigation and witchhunt of Reverend Ike?

When people speak of politics in church, I am reminded of Hemingway's remark in, I believe, A Farewell to Arms, that there is politics in all religion and religion in all politics.

When I interviewed Reverend Jones for my hour-long radio program, I noted the public response was overwhelming and positive. Why are those who resist freedom for Afro-Americans so bent on nailing Jim Jones to the cross?

Sincerely,

*Julia Hare*  
JULIA HARE

bcc: Michael Prokes  
Marsha Jones

*Original received  
8/12/77*

*rec'd Georgetown  
11/26/77*

*765*

850 Bryant Street, Room 421  
San Francisco, CA 94103

*Copy*

August 11, 1977

Prime Minister L.F.S. Burnham  
Office of the Prime Minister  
Brickdam  
Georgetown, Guyana

Dear Prime Minister Burnham:

*Copy*

This letter is in reference to Rev. Jim Jones whom I have known for about two years. Prior to that time I knew of his work in the San Francisco Community.

Rev. Jones has been very supportive of local programs designed to rehabilitate ex-offenders. As the past Director of the Police Community Relations Unit of the San Francisco Police Department, I personally know that members of his organization were instrumental in abating one of San Francisco's most serious social problems existing in the Fillmore District of the City.

Sincerely,

*Rodney E. Williams*  
RODNEY E. WILLIAMS

REW:vn

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/ER

RECEIVED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

# Memorandum

TO : John D. Blacken  
Charge d'Affaires

FROM : Richard A. McCoy  
Consul

SUBJECT: Trip Report

REC'd & Georgia

766

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/NE

DATE: September 1, 1977

REVIEWED BY John Simmons DATE 2-27-81

EDS ☐ or IDS ☐ EXT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_

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RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

In addition to the two telegrams filed in regard to my two-day trip to the Northwest Region, the following is a list of officials who I met during my visit.

1. Regional Minister - F. Carmichael (at airport only)
2. Regional District Officer - Robert Wyatt. He is responsible for Matthews Ridge, Port Kaituma and Mabaruma Region.
3. District Officer Port Kaituma - Norman F. Adams.
4. Regional Police Supervisor - Assistant Superintendent Braun. He is stationed at Mabaruma but was in Matthews Ridge for court hearings. He has the same regional responsibilities as Mr. Wyatt.
5. District Police Officer - Inspector J.E. Benjamin. He covers area between Matthews Ridge and Port Kaituma.

Without the cooperation of all the above, my trip would not have been the success that it was. Their interest and assistance was outstanding. In particular, Mr. Wyatt put the Minister's Land Rover at my disposal on August 30 for my trip to Jonestown and Port Kaituma. I was able to spend some time with Norman Adams and Robert Wyatt. I toured Port Kaituma (what there is of it) with Mr. Adams, and I met with Mr. Wyatt on August 31. I was impressed with the enthusiasm of both gentlemen for their jobs. In addition to this short report I am preparing a biographic report on Mr. Wyatt. I briefed Mr. Wyatt on my visit to Jonestown and gave him my impressions of the community (similar to that reported in my telegram about the community.) He appeared relieved that, at least for the moment, there are no pending problems other than the child custody matter which is not a problem for him. Wyatt has only been Regional District Officer for two months, so at least for the foreseeable



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future should any additional problems with the People's Temple arise I will have a good working contact. In fact, I believe the most successful aspect of my entire trip was the useful contacts I have made with the local officials. Hopefully, this will be beneficial to us in the future. I believe that with the large number of Americans now at Jonestown and a smaller group at Yarakita near Mabaruma, a visit to the region be scheduled every six months.

This trip was a most interesting and enlightening experience.

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768

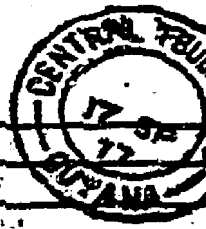
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# GUYANA POST OFFICE

ABSTRACT NO.

## OFFICIAL (ON SERVICE) FORWARDED TELEGRAM

A 1206

OFFICE OF ORIGIN AND SERVICE INSTRUCTIONS  <b>(2)</b>	SENT	H	M	SERIAL No.	CHARGE			DATE STAMP  
	TO				CODE	INLAND	S	
	BY			NO. OF WORDS	PORTERAGE			
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SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE \_\_\_\_\_  
DEPARTMENT \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_


TEXT I AM VERY HAPPY AND I AM ABOUT TO GET  
MARRIED TO A YOUNG DOCTOR MY FATHER HAS  
THREATENED TO CAUSE TROUBLE IF I DONT SEE  
HIM I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I AM HERE  
ENTIRELY ON MY OWN FREE WILL AND AM VERY  
HAPPY MEETING MY DAD ALWAYS CAUSES ME

# GUYANA POST OFFICE

ABSTRACT NO.

## OFFICIAL (ON SERVICE) FORWARDED TELEGRAM

A 1206

OFFICE OF ORIGIN AND SERVICE INSTRUCTIONS	SENT	H	M	SERIAL No.	CHARGE			DATE STAMP  
	TO				CODE	INLAND	S	
	BY			NO. OF WORDS	PORTERAGE			
					TOTAL			

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ON  
SERVICE  
(SEE OVER)

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE \_\_\_\_\_  
DEPARTMENT \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

TO : File

REVIEWED BY

DATE

DATE: September 19, 1977

FROM : CONS/RAMCoy

EDS for EDS/EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. REASON(S)

RESPONSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☒

RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

SUBJECT: PEOPLE'S TEMPLE

I met today with the Commissioner of Police to discuss the entire question of the People's Temple. I detailed for him various problems that were coming up in the press in the United States about the People's Temple although I was quick to point out that as far as the Embassy was concerned none of these allegations have been substantiated. I also told him that as far as we know there were no criminal indictments or warrants of arrest. I did indicate concern about the Government's move to stay the execution of court orders of September 10 and that I hoped that this would be resolved forthwith.

Commissioner Barker told me that he was somewhat concerned about this sudden official activity involving the People's Temple and in his last meeting with representatives of the organization he issued orders for them to have their ocean going vessel stopped at the immigration post, Morawhanna, for inspection before proceeding inland to Port Kaituma. I told him that I would inform him immediately if we received any information from any official U.S. Government Agency of any ongoing investigation pertaining to the People's Temple that they were smuggling prohibited items into Guyana.

Commissioner Barker stated that he had instructed <sup>THEIR</sup> representatives to insure that all firearms and ammunition that the organization possessed should be licensed in accordance with Guyanese law.

Commissioner Barker continued that until the organization proved otherwise he, of course, would treat them similarly to any other group of law abiding Americans and Guyanese. I fully agreed with the Commissioner's position regarding the People's Temple and said that was the Embassy's intention as well.

The meeting then concluded.

c.c.: John D. Blacken, Charge d'Affaires a.i.

CONS:RAMCoy:ddh



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HERVYN M. DYMALLY  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Rec'd to  
Georgetown  
11/28/77



PEOPLE

Tang

State of California  
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
107 SOUTH BROADWAY, SUITE 4007  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012



October 27, 1977

Honorable Forbes Burnham  
Prime Minister  
Georgetown, Guyana  
South America

Dear Mr. Burnham:

I want to share with you a matter of great concern to me.

The concept of a politically motivated conspiracy directed against an individual or organization in an attempt to discredit and destroy one's effectiveness in the political and social arena should be utterly foreign to a democratic society. Unfortunately, however, such is not the case.

Having myself been the subject of an ungrounded attack by the media and other agencies, I have first hand experience as to how such campaigns against outspoken persons are launched and carried forward.

Recently, the Lieutenant Governor of Colorado, Lieutenant Governor George Brown, and I joined the National Association of Human Rights Workers to announce the publication of an exhaustive study of organized efforts in the United States to discredit black elected officials. In looking at the extensive body of data compiled after two years of careful research, the picture is unmistakably clear that conspiracies against black and third world people are very real and serve to blunt the effectiveness of any person trying to represent the interest of third world people.

One such person to whom the media and several agencies of government have deliberately and concertedly focussed their resources is one of the most committed activists and finest human beings I know-- Reverend Jim Jones. Reverend Jones is the leader of a multi-ethnic, multi-facted, many thousand member organization known as People's Temple. It is one of the most significant forces today in the area of human rights, social change and concrete service work.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/M

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_

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DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☐

RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

It is my belief that by the year 1980 the minority population in California alone will reach the 60% mark. People's Temple is a working solution to the problem that California can anticipate in the not so far distant future. People's Temple has managed to effectively organize minority and caucasians as well, into a viable, progressive force.

A noteworthy feature of the Temple's program is its compassionate emphasis on the needs of the ever growing senior population. This emphasis accurately reflects the shifting age curve of the future and meets that need with kindness not condescension.

Beyond that, Reverend Jones and People's Temple have helped every person who in recent years has been oppressed or jailed fundamentally because of his or her political beliefs. Jim has never been reticent to speak his beliefs in non-violent causes.

It is my confirmed opinion that this outspoken stance coupled with the undeniable size and effectiveness of his organization, has made him a target of the most gruelling and vicious conspiracy yet witnessed.

That which I know to be obvious, lies and frame-up, are presented to the public as thoroughly proven facts. Interestingly enough, the scurrilous nature of these lies were meted out to papers in those cities throughout the world which has the highest concentration of Caribbean and, in particular, Guyanese residents. By doing so, the organizers of this conspiracy hoped to have such information filter into Guyana where Reverend Jones has established a remarkable and highly successful model community which I personally have visited. I found that visit to be one of the most rewarding experiences of my life.

One of the key figures in this cruel scenario is a man with a well documented criminal background who has been described by several correctional specialists as a "con man" with an insatiable desire for money and notoriety. Also involved is a high priced public relations firm whose job is to map out campaigns to discredit Reverend Jones and feed information prepackaged to a supposedly free and "objective" press.

It is clear to me that a phenomenal amount of money is being spent by this conspiracy in an attempt to destabilize the agricultural project in Guyana and to apparently, bring about the elimination of Reverend Jones.

Evidence currently being gathered points clearly to right wing forces of the first magnitude. One such force is known to have political affiliation with those remnants of the Nazis who continue

October 27, 1977

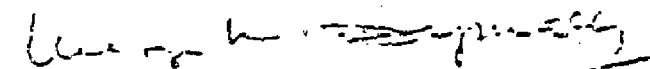
to permeate the fabric of American society to a degree that would shock people unfamiliar with the growing move to the radical right in the United States.

In fact, the last time I visited the San Francisco Headquarters of the People's Temple several weeks ago, a large Nazi rally was taking place in the nearby city of San Jose. It was covered extensively by all media. Klu Klux Klan chapters continue to grow and flourish in all parts of the United States. It is likely that the Panama Treaty will be defeated as a result of the well financed campaign against its passage. These are but a few examples to give you some idea of the current trend.

As a native of Trinidad, my bonds with the Caribbean are close and everlasting. I feel a certain responsibility to apprise you of my thoughts on Jim Jones and my interpretation of what I have seen of the attack on him and his organization in the past months. Jim is a deeply loyal and sensitive person and he is a man who stands by his word and by those who look to him for guidance and leadership. It is this kind of loyalty that makes him a man to be trusted. — I know for a fact that he will stand by his commitment to Guyana just as firmly as he now stands by his commitment to any one of his children.

I look forward to future visits to Guyana and extend to you my warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,



MERVYN M. DYMALLY

MMD:yms

Rec'd. Georgetown  
11/30/77

con: R. M. Q.

772

Reply sent

NNNN

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE 11/15/77 A/DC/MR

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RELEASE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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ETAT

HON JOHN BURKE AMBASSADOR US EMBASSY 31 MAIN STREET

GEORGETOWN

STEVEN KATSARIS WILL BE IN GEORGETOWN NOVEMBER 11TH IN  
THE EVENT HE NEEDS ASSISTANCE IN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOLLOWING  
VISIT WITH HIS DAUGHTER WOULD PERSONALLY APPRECIATE YOUR  
MAKING FACILITIES OF THE EMBASSY AVAILABLE TO HIM

DON H CLAUSEN REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS

COL 31 11TH

1249



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : File

FROM : CONS/RAMcCoy

SUBJECT: PEOPLE'S TEMPLE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

DATE: December 15, 1977

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_

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TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_

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RELEASE ☐ DECLASSIFIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

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On December 12, I held a long discussion (two hours) with three members of the People's Temple at their request. They were concerned about the motive behind my intended visit to Jonestown next month. As usual, I explained to them that there were still allegations being made against them in the United States about holding people against their will here and as a result, I was receiving inquiries through the Department of State from relatives to have personal contact with members to insure their well being. I informed them that they should not conclude from this that I believe these allegations or was in some way carrying out a quasi judicial action. This was simply part of my responsibility as the American Consul in Guyana.

In addition, I also pointed out to them that eventually I would have to be doing social security compliance requests in which I would have to confirm for the Social Security Administration (SSA) that recipients of social security benefits were alive and well. However, this program did not just pertain to retired members of the People's Temple but to all SSA annuitants in Guyana.

At the same time I pointed out that I was prepared to assist them any time when they had any problems such as with the recent death case, reporting births, passport services and any other function where they may need assistance. I continued that by travelling to Jonestown it would obviate the need for a number of elderly people to have to make a long, arduous trip to Georgetown.

At the same time I emphasized that I had not made a trip since the last part of August and since that period I have received a number of inquiries from individuals in the United States asking about the health and well being of their relatives residing in Jonestown. I was aware that the People's Temple may feel persecuted by certain elements in the United States but they should understand that I have a job to perform and I would try to perform it as objectively as possible -- I was as much their Consul as anybody else's and that with 800 American citizens living up there, I was naturally interested in their welfare. On the other hand I had no wish to intrude



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



Memo to File  
PEOPLE'S TEMPLE

- 2 -

December 15, 1977

on their privacy. Moreover, to the best of my knowledge, the People's Temple is not under active Federal investigation nor are there any warrants of arrest issued by any United States Law Enforcement Agency. If such were the case, then the Guyanese Police Officials would carry out any arrests since I did not have this type of authority. I remarked that it appeared to me the more times I go up to Jonestown and visit the area and am able to comment to Washington that there does not appear to be anyone held against their will, etc., the less inquiries on the safety and well being of their members we will receive. The three members acknowledged this by stating that they really wanted to be sure that I was objective. They had heard reports that I was a member of the CIA and that at times they had seen me in the company of Jeffrey Haas and that I had met with Steven Katsaris. I replied that by now with all that has passed with these problems, they should know that I do not take sides and as the Consul here it was only proper that Steven Katsaris come to see me since that is a part of my job. I would be very happy to show up at court with the members of the People's Temple as I would with anybody else. They simply had to understand that I was interested in their welfare and certainly interested in the John Stoen custody case since all the disputants were American citizens. I continued that I still feel it was absolutely ridiculous for the Katsaris girl to show up with an attorney when she met with her father. The three individuals disputed this last statement of mine claiming that she wanted the attorney with her so that her father could not intimidate her. I responded that how could her father intimidate her when I was there, the Guyanese Ambassador to the United States was there as were several other members of the People's Temple.

At this point, our conversation covered the allegations of psychological intimidation by members of the People's Temple, the alleged embezzlement by Bishop Jones on social security checks and the conspiracy that is being conducted against the People's Temple by elements in the United States. When I challenged them to indicate to me who "they" were, the group responded by showing me a book in which purportedly 88 prominent American blacks had been subjected to various investigations by Federal Agencies. I reiterated that first of all I did not believe the CIA would be interested in them and secondly, that at the present time U. S. investigative agencies do not conduct witch hunts. Furthermore, I was unaware of any investigative

Memo to File  
PEOPLE'S TEMPLE

- 3 -

December 15, 1977

interest on the part of the United States toward the People's Temple. One member pointed out that a recent shipment of machinery and household effects destined for the community had been opened by U. S. Customs and searched. Also for the first time here in Guyana they were experiencing difficulty in clearing this shipment through Guyana Customs, even though it had been thoroughly searched by Guyanese Customs Officials and they had duty free import licenses for the contents. They asked whether I could assist them to get the items cleared. I agreed and called Dennis Corlette, Head of Customs, on their behalf. He was not in so I spoke to his secretary who agreed to put them in contact with the person who could help them. I remarked to the group that it is not easy to clear items through customs these days and gave them the example of the problems I had clearing my son's shotgun.

Essentially, the remainder of the meeting continued in this vein. There was much 'to-ing and fro-ing' and discussing of conspiracy allegations, future trips by Consular Officers and further problems.

COMMENT:

Apparently, what triggered this visit at this time was my comments that I would be going to Jonestown next month. This coincides, reportedly, with the arrival of Grace and Timothy Stoen to Guyana to claim custody of their son, John, so the group contacted the two. I am not sure whether I was able to convince them that I am truly objective and that I would really prefer there were no problems. In closing, I simply emphasized to them that they would be able to judge for themselves of the role of the Embassy in all this. I told the group I enjoyed the dialogue and they should feel free to contact me at any time to continue it.

C.C. Ambassador  
DOM

CONS:RAMcGoy:ddh  
*[Signature]*

rec'd Georgetown  
11/30/78

January 13, 1978

778

Ambassador R. McCoy  
Embassy of the United States of America  
31 Main Street  
Georgetown, Guyana

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA

JAN 23 1978

GEORGETOWN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
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Dear Sir:

I have heard from our members in  
Jonestown, Guyana of your visit there. They  
were most impressed with your narration  
of our Agricultural Community. Being  
an Ambassador, you know the difficulty  
of mustering support for the passage  
and implementation of legislation that  
is designed for the people. Peoples  
Temple Church, of which I am a member,  
is a progressive Church that also is  
dealing effectively with programs designed  
for the people. Reverend Jones heads an  
organization that is taking the lead in  
showing communities of people how they  
can come together to solve many of  
their social problems, thereby taking much  
of the burden of government. We have  
provided our members with legal  
assistance, scholarships and apprenticeship  
programs, emergency financial aid, youth  
activity programs, and aid for senior  
citizens. Many of our efforts are designed  
to help people realize their own abilities  
in helping solve their problems. Thank  
you for your support of our work there.

Sincerely,  
Randy Thornton

780

Honorable Ambassador R. McCoy  
Embassy of the United States of America  
31 Main St.  
C/Burg  
Georgetown, Guyana  
South America

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA

JAN 23 1978

RECEIVED

Dear Ambassador McCoy,

Just a few words of encouragement and praise to one whose continued dedication to public service has been an inspiration to me and indeed to all Americans who look to our leaders to be the voice of the people in government. Your sensitivity to the needs of the people especially those of the minorities and the poor, your willingness to express those needs and your drive to promote progressive change has offered hope to many who had none.

I have become very sensitized to the effectiveness of good leadership in government from my many years in the human service work of Peoples Temple. Your leadership abilities have indeed been exemplary.

We were most honored to have you visit our project in Jonestown and pleased that you showed the interest to do so. It is such a privilege for us to have

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to promote American goodwill to the  
Guyanese people, working side by  
side with the people of a developing  
nation.

Again, know that your concern  
for the people has not gone unnoticed.  
We appreciate you.

Sincerely,

Barbara Hoyer

Rec'd for Georgetown  
in 1978

Georgetown  
January 24, 1978

file. Blackin  
particular  
Tungin

781

Ambassador John Burke  
Embassy of the United States of America  
31 Main Street  
Georgetown, Georgetown

Dear Ambassador Burke:

I am writing to you because I want to express my hope you won't be partisan in the Stoen case. Your statement about the paper signed by Tim Stoen that it didn't prove Jim Jones was the real father gave us some concern. You will see by the enclosed paper that John Stoen's birthdate is mentioned on the form so Tim Stoen certainly knew who the real father is. Doesn't the word of 1000 people mean anything to you on this matter. If you are fair, their word will count for something.

Also, in terms of blood tests, we challenge Tim Stoen to take a blood test as that would prove who the real father is. Tim Stoen could not possibly pass all the tests for paternity and one look at John Stoen's pictures would show who the father is. It pains us that you would not see the obviousness of it, in terms of physical resemblance.

We deeply want to work with you. We have been victims of a conspiracy that even government officials have clearly confirmed is being brought against us. Because of this, there is a great need of trust right now to overcome alienation that is in our community.

We are hoping that you take into consideration the things that I have mentioned in this letter as John Stoen's welfare is at stake. Grace and Tim Stoen abandoned John. Tim left John in Jonestown to go to the United States; Grace left John when she had an affair and didn't bother to even visit him. Now their interest in John could only be because they are being paid or pressured to use John as a tool to harass the group. This child will not be used as a pawn; we will not allow that. We have witnesses that they are using the child as a means of harassment trying to provoke us to action even if it means our death and the child's death. Some who the Stoens thought were their friends told us this. It is a tragedy that they are harassing a group that has succeeded in being a working democratic and cooperative interracial community. The Stoens very well may be paid to do this because they have no visible means of support yet stayed in the best of hotels and could afford to jet over here to Guyana.

Tim Stoen in the past made a statement out of a visit he took to East Berlin. He was arrested and thrown out of the country. He was told in the United States his

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criticism of East Berlin. He didn't have to be ashamed of this but denied to us that he did it and always gave the image of being a radical socialist. We do not feel that it is in the interest of either Guyana or the United States for him to cause this kind of strain between two countries that are trying to have good relations. We obviously have a lot to lose if there is conflict between the countries because we are building an extensive community and members are visiting from the United States and some are relocating here, but he has ambitions to get ahead and will exploit others to do so. We would like to be free to develop our program without this constant harassment from people who have no interest in their children until coincidentally they all get together and get funds to persevere in bothering even adult and married young men like the Olivers and then leave a paper to be signed so they can get an inheritance that was left to the young men.

All we ask is that the American Embassy and Consul remain neutral so that 1000 Americans are as equally considered as two Americans who have no permanent interest in Guyana and who only create difficulties for all involved. John Stoen entered Guyana legally and with full permission. August of 1977 Tim Stoen praised Jim Jones in an article in a US paper as being a great leader and then all of a sudden a month later he made 180° turn. He must have been paid off to do such a thing, as Tim has asserted that Grace is a poor mother and he did not want John with her.

Tim Stoen states in the enclosed paper that he tried but was unable to father a child. He would not be a fit father for John. In Grace's own handwriting is a note in which she requests counselling for Tim because of his compulsive pattern of transvestitism. She was worried how it would affect John. We were contacted by four different people in Guyana (Guyanese friends) who told us that Tim Stoen was spending his time in Georgetown this time with a black prostitute and this disturbed our Guyanese friends because they felt he was exploiting her. His pretense of reconciling with Grace is thus obvious.

John went through a very cruel rejection from Grace in the first place. She threw him in Jim Jones' arms and said to him, before witnesses both inside and outside the church, "I don't want him. Take him, he's yours." Since the lies came out in the newspapers it seems that some people are hesitant to accept the truth when we have all the evidence in the world on our side. We would rather die than destroy this child. Anyone would rather die than see a child like John and a child like Dana Griffith destroyed. For the sake of good relations between the United States and Guyana, you should talk to the child for yourself. He would tell you the torturous things that she did; how she had sexual intercourse with that man, Smitty, in John's presence and she locked him in the garage. He always tells these stories over and over again because he endured such horrible traumas. Jim Jones refused to marry her which he frankly said, for the sake of everyone, he wishes he had as it would have been much less pain for everyone except himself. She was purposely cruel to John every chance she had.

Many of our friends both here and there say it does no good to talk to you, because you have made up your mind and do not want to be confused with the facts--claiming that Bishop Jones is a devotee of President Carter. However, if you will let us work with you, Bishop Jones wants to work in any way possible with this new era of detente and good will. If we had any utopianism in us, this harassment has sure made realists out of us. Our only goal is to be of some help to Guyana and be good representatives of the United States.

Sincerely yours,

*Lincoln P. Smith*  
Lincoln P. Smith

782

I, ~~JAMES WARREN~~ ~~Tough~~ hereby authorize  
release of information concerning my residence and activities  
in Guyana to relatives and members of the Congress.

**S.**

Feb 2nd 1978

I, James Warren Jones authorize  
release of information concerning  
observation made by U.S. Government  
officials derived from their  
visits to Jonestown -- Peoples Temple  
Agricultural Project -- to relatives  
of residents and members of Congress  
James Warren Jones



Reid Hertzman  
11/30/78

783

2/9/78

Conv. w/ J. M.

P.T. ~~is~~ is fraud. and  
J.J. is not but crook.

He has influence ~~with~~  
thru Hi level to OG off.

~~P.T.~~ Jonestown state within  
a state. over 1,000 people  
there. J.J. spreads lies  
etc about everyone divide  
& conquer.

P.T. He brought members  
here under inf of drugs and J.J.  
has a group of bodyguards

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784

February 14, 1978

Dear Elizabeth:

I noted that a number of the copies of replies to Congressional inquiries on the People's Temple are now drafted by a F. L. Henneke. Is that the Officer who will eventually replace you? Please advise Mr. Henneke that our Ambassador would appreciate all such responses to Congressman et al on the Stoen case or other People's Temple matters be cleared with ARA/CAR. As you can imagine, he is very concerned about the entire problem and believes there is a need for tight coordination between the Desk and your office.

I very much hope to be able to meet with you some time during my visit to Washington. At this time I definitely plan to be in the Department on March 16 and will contact your office.

Hope to see you soon.

Richard A. Mc Coy  
American Consul

who are thugs. J M Believes  
psychological & phyp intimidation  
is used. He is convinced  
whole program is gigantic  
fraud and will blow up.  
He thinks that P.T. would  
prevent G & Y Pol from carrying  
out their duties because of  
their protection from hi-  
level GOC passage.

J.M. has warned GOC  
about IJ & P.T.. He considers  
many members are on drugs and  
that when E. J. get to town  
vint is stop. ~~changed.~~

3

At same time IT is cozying up to  
Soviets etc. IT is a charlatan  
who will be exposed sooner  
or later.

Rec'd Georgetown  
11/30/78  
786

Georgetown, Guyana

Mr. Stephen Dobrenchuk  
A/SCS  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C. 20520

May 2, 1978  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR  
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Dear Steve:

Enclosed are a few items of interest relating to the People's Temple. As you can imagine they are very concerned about the possibility of a mercenary attack on their community although I believe it is ridiculous.

There has been no movement on the Stoen case which is not surprising. The presiding judge is presently deeply involved as the Chairman of a special commission investigating labor problems so at the present, I have no idea when he will announce his decision.

I am very grateful for your intercession with the Visa Office. When I returned to Georgetown late last month there had been activity on the case that indicated to the Guyanese Government our willingness to try to resolve that particular problem. You may recall it involved a 14 year old Guyanese girl who inexplicable was being held in the United States by an American citizen.

Regardless of the outcome of that case we would have looked very bad had you not interceded.

I will be coming to the Consular Conference next month so I hope I will see you then. Again, thanks for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Richard A. McCoy  
American Consul

Enclosure:  
As stated above

Rac'd Georgetown -  
4/30/78

Dear  
CONS

PEOPLES TEMPLE AGRICULTURAL MISSION  
P.O. Box 893, Georgetown, Guyana, South America  
RECEIVED BY 1978

788

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Dear Friend;

We have appreciated that you have been sensitive to Peoples Temple and thus we are sending you these articles from the Sun-Reporter about the work of Peoples Temple so you can put into perspective some of the opposition that Peoples Temple has faced. If you have received any negative articles about Peoples Temple lately they represent only a small segment of the United States and are only sensational small town rags.

Of course, one knows from a religious perspective that if you are doing the work, you will face persecutions. Whether you are religious or not, you can evaluate the facts for yourself. Peoples Temple is a group that has for thirty years devoted its energies to racial and economic equality, a goal that has taken the toll of many lives such as Martin Luther King, Jr. Peoples Temple, out of a deep commitment to its principles, has chosen to live in Guyana, a third world nation. There are those who are racist and reactionary who do not want anyone to survive and be successful in exemplifying these ideals, if they are in any way a living proof that an interracial egalitarian lifestyle can survive. You can see for yourself when you visit Jonestown, and we welcome guests daily, that Jonestown is an interracial egalitarian socialist community.

There are a few individuals, and we in no way feel that these people exemplify those progressive individuals in the United States who have been most supportive of Peoples Temple, that have attempted to dishonor this project. There are those who attempted to do the same thing to Martin Luther King, Jr. after his death when they publicized that he indulged in sexual orgies, a rather difficult thing to believe since he spent his time out in the streets with the people day after day facing racial attacks and was far too busy and dedicated to "indulge" in hardly anything even the most normal type of relaxation. However, it is an obvious tactic of racists and reactionaries to discredit a person through this kind of unproven innuendo rather than to come to grips with their dedicated efforts to improve the human condition. There has never in history been anyone who has tried to assist humanity, even in the slightest way, that hasn't found an element that is anti-humanitarian and threatened by any change that benefits other than himself.

We thank you for your attention to these articles. We welcome objective criticism and beg you to contact us directly if you find any area in our work

that we can evaluate to make improvements. We also appreciate you reading these articles so you can see the other side of the situation. The author, Tom Fleming, is a very prominent editor of this black newspaper, the most prestigious newspaper of its kind in California. The publisher and owner of the paper, Dr. Carleton Goodlett (Ph.D, M.D.) is President of the National Newspaper Publishers Association—Black Press of America as well as Publisher of the Sun Reporter and Metro-Reporter Newspapers. Both gentlemen are planning to visit Jonestown and have followed the work of Peoples Temple very closely in the United States.

Thank you again for your objectivity.

Cooperatively yours,

*Sharon Amos*

Sharon Amos  
Assistant to Cde. Jim Jones

I arrived here in September. I came in on a fishing boat owned by the community. We traveled up the Barima River, then on the Kaituma, through a landscape that has changed little since the days when Sir Walter Raleigh came through, searching for "El Dorado," the fabled golden city. Dreamlike, timeless.

The Northwest Region of Guyana has a tropical climate, but it's remarkably, surprisingly pleasant, tempered by trade winds. Even in the rainy seasons, there is no more than two hours of rain a day. Though not a day goes by without sunshine, thanks to the trades and the 40-50% cloud cover, the heat is never oppressive. Nights are in the upper 60's, cool enough for a light jacket. I couldn't begin to describe the natural beauty of the wilderness, the stillness that you can almost hear. The people in the capital (Georgetown, about 200 miles away), actually call this part of the world "paradise."

The community I live in is located on one of the world's last frontiers: the tropical forests near the Venezuela-Guyana border. Here, on several thousand acres of virgin jungle allotted by the Guyana government in 1973, a group of Americans has been building an agricultural project. Already over a thousand acres have been converted into cropland and pasture. Bananas, cassava, peanuts, rice, vegetables, and beans of many varieties are being cultivated. Plus: chickens, pigs, cattle, goats, ducks and rabbits. The community is the site of extensive experimentation with the aim of developing a continuously-cropped and varied array of foodstuffs that will not only feed its nearly 1,000 residents, but will help boost the productivity of the surrounding region.

Perhaps more remarkable than the hundreds and hundreds of acres of tropical forest that are now producing food; more remarkable than the development of this lovely community out of virgin jungle, the housing construction, streets, electric lighting, sanitary facilities, fruit trees planted everywhere, is the population of Jonestown. Almost one thousand people are here in 'Jonestown', and more come in every week. There are people here from every race, every background. Our farm supervisory staff, for example, includes a Pomo Indian woman, a young man from Northumberland who grew up on a farm in the shadow of Roman ruins, a former county attorney from Northern California, a young man from the Philadelphia ghetto who, through the inspiration and help of Jim Jones, studied agronomy at Cal State, a young woman from rural Mississippi, a 53-year old former chemical engineer from a prominent family in Delaware, and an ex-Mormon dairy farmer from Shasta County.

250 senior citizens, mostly black, mostly ghetto-dwellers who suffered from hypertension, are here finding a place of peace and beauty, a new lease on life. The same goes for the over 200 teenagers and young adults who were unable to find the handle for their lives in the big cities. Here they have found something to put themselves into, a community to build, a challenging environment in a black nation.

The children have a future here. They are not, to use Paul Goodman's phrase, "growing up absurd." The world here makes sense. People are now part of a community, on land that is theirs, part of a purpose that is not confined to this community, but which is the pulse of the "third world." Here we have joined hearts, hands and minds with the Guyanese people in a massive effort to build a new society, based on the foundations of love and work, co-operation and equality.



The Peoples Temple Agricultural Project has become a model co-operative. Guyana has been trying to get her people to settle the rich interior here, to develop local resources, to move towards self-sufficiency and economic independence. We are doing just that out here, and in the process, as Americans, are building a kind of good will between the Caribbean peoples and our native United States. Government officials have praised our work highly; American officials have come and have been impressed. One of Guyana's highest ranking ministers, a man who has traveled the world as a spokesman for a non-aligned nation, and who has addressed the U.N. General Assembly on several occasions, was moved to tears by what has been accomplished here, by the total absence of racism, sexism, and 'ageism,' and the place of honor given to senior citizens and children, the meticulous care of our medical staff, the happy faces, friendly and open people who have taken Guyana, and her people and her goals to heart. Visitors are chartering planes to come here, to see this group of Americans who defy the stereotypes.

My main task in coming here was to organize a high school program for about 90 youngsters. Besides several levels of instruction in language skills, math, and social studies, we have put together a "community development institute" that embodies practical study and training in all areas of building this entirely "home-made" community. The students are involved directly in learning about every aspect of agriculture, sanitation, mechanics, construction, food processing, composting, power plant technology, even some civil engineering and surveying, and more. The development of the community is the "open air" school that brings study and practical application together. Since the school program merges with the life-style here, there is no such thing as "irrelevance."

It has been the most exciting, challenging, and rewarding educational experience of my life.

The students include local (Amerindian) teenagers along with the American settlers. We have dramatic proof out here in the jungles that social and environmental conditions determine what children will be like, and can bring about profound characterological changes that are almost unbelievable.

I have seen "street" kids who craved only junk food, television and cars transformed, into gardeners, builders, scientists, leaders ... involved in constructive activity, regaining their health, eating and liking the natural foods here, developing confidence, responsibility, maturity. It is awe-inspiring to see them responding to the challenges of work and study in a culture, an environment that they can relate to. Some of the young people here were literally given up on by everyone — even the juvenile authorities didn't want to deal with them.

I'd note that quite a few of them — had they remained on the streets of San Francisco — would have added hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions of dollars to what is being spent on programs for rehabilitation, and for the repair of vandalized property. Some of them were hell raiders and they would have no doubt helped to heat up the inner city.

I have also been working on a program for the senior citizens who have come here to retire. The oldest, a woman whose parents were slaves in Virginia, arrived here in January. She took the up-river trip in our fishing boat, deep into this beautiful, enchanting place. She will be 108 years old in ... another fellow here, who came three years ago when the original

jungle acreage was being cleared, is 102. He remains active, by his own choice, making furniture in his own shop.

We just cannot get the old folks here to "retire". The place turns them on, makes them forget they're old. Their wealth of experience has helped in numerous ways to find some tried-and-true, home-made solutions to problems that the younger folks never knew about. We have now set up a kind of high school program for those adults and seniors who didn't receive the advantages of an education (many grew up as children of tenant farmers and migrants, and had practically no schooling). It is moving to see people in their 70's and 80's diligently studying. They have also organized their own handicrafts and art classes. Their work has been displayed for the many visitors who come to the community, already famous and highly-regarded throughout the country.

Visitors stream in here. Guyana officials, as well as Americans, such as California's Lt. Governor Mark Dymally, anxious to see what has been termed by the Guyanese as a "model of co-operation."

The amazing thing to practically all who come is not only the co-operative spirit, the comprehensive planning and management that has gone into the project (with no outside funding), but the total lack of racism here: blacks, whites, Amerindians, Latinos, Orientals, everyone working together like a big family. We know it has been precisely this level of human co-operation that has made the project such a success.

I wanted to also remark on the extensive medical services we have been able to bring to the region. Our clinic has saved lives, and is doing wonders in preventing and controlling parasite-caused illnesses common to the tropics, such as gastroenteritis.

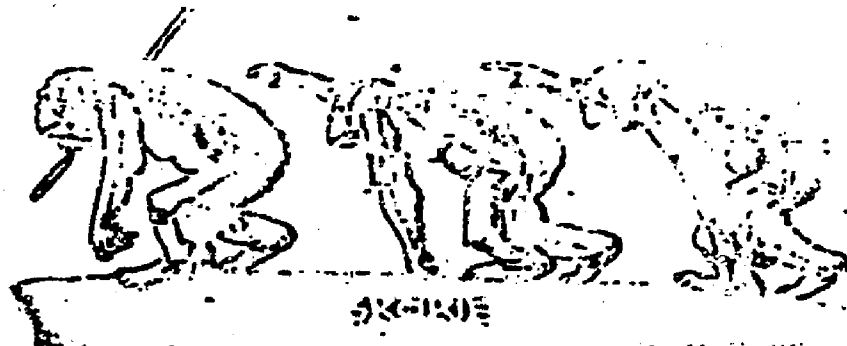
The level of health among residents here is very high -- higher than it was previously. The climate, diet, and peaceful, pressure-free surroundings have practically eliminated hypertension problems, kidney ailments, even heart problems among the elderly. A group of specialists and naturalists in the community have been working on herbal medicines, and we've had many successes -- for example, with papaya, in healing sores.

I took a leave from the college for one year. I didn't know what I was going to do when the year was up. I cannot see anything in front of me now but to continue with the work that is going on here. I will doubtless return to the States at some time in the future, but now, that is far from my mind.

The beauty here; the sense of the unexplored; the challenges of building a new community; the children who today have a new lease on life; the older people who can finally live in peace, in a place that is in real sense theirs, where they can have a voice, a dignity; these are all compelling reasons for us to remain.

While it may seem that this jungle is a place of escape, a retreat from the modern world, it is quite the opposite: here all is growth, all is rebirth, new horizons, becoming, development, a future.

Retreat? Here in the South American jungle, we are stepping forward into the challenge of finding a future for mankind.



## Thomas Fleming's

WEEKLY REPORT

Despite the fact that Jim Jones has temporarily departed the California scene to begin another career in Guyana, there are former members of Peoples Temple who still would do him physical harm or use the courts to destroy him.

Jones, the sociologist who has used Christianity to aid him in helping those of the human race who need help, was under constant attack by those who have followed a program of hypocrisy in their everyday relations with their fellowmen.

The writer was first attracted to Jones when Peoples Temple had its headquarters in Mendocino County, and when hundreds of persons who had been classified as pariahs by the rich and powerful made pilgrimages to Mendocino County every week, particularly for the Sunday services.

The services conducted by Jones resembled the sermons preached by Jesus Christ during his short stay on Earth. The sermons offered to the masses by Christ so angered the rich and powerful that they conspired to have him put to death.

This writer did not know Jones during his sojourn in the northern part of the state, and he was attracted to him by a series of articles appearing in the San Francisco Examiner, by the online religion editor, one Robert Kinsolving, who later turned out to be just another Bible thumper from that curious section of the country where the Bible thumpers uphold all of the vicious practices of white supremacy.

Jones brought people of all colors and speech into the fold to worship in peace.

There are many persons who find it difficult to find their particular niche in life, and such people are in dire need of assistance to find the niche that best suits their needs.

The majority of niche seekers are looking for what can best be described as a utopia, and those who went to Jones were not free of thoughts of searching for a land of milk and honey.

Some of those who did not find their utopia fell away and began to launch bitter attacks upon Jones, which fact was not ignored by a number of publications in the state of California.

These publications immediately began to print lurid stories picturing Jones as a charlatan of the first degree—an individual who claimed super healing powers, an individual who through devious means acquired property and money from some of those who went to him in search of utopia. Jones was also charged with necromancy.

Guyana is in South America, and was once a British dependency; it then was called British Guiana. Later on it became a sovereign nation.

The population is largely Black, with a considerable number of former British subjects who emigrated from India in search of a better world during the British reign over that great Asian country.

A Black man is president of the country. It is interesting that all of the Blacks found in the New World were brought in the New World from Africa as chattel slaves. Many of the Blacks brought to Guyana escaped and fled to the interior jungle areas, where they lived with the indigenous Indians as free people. Of course, the people found in the New World by Columbus were called Indians.

Where Jones led his great trek in Guyana is an area that is a virtual jungle, there before the American pioneers led by Jones disembarked from a boat and hacked out a road through the heavily forested terrain to a designated spot.

More trees and other shrubbery had to be cut and burned before the settlers could erect their first buildings.

Now the cleared area is known as Jonestown and there are perhaps more than 2,000 people. There are some people with medical skills and other skills that mankind has felt so essential for survival.

Among the new pioneers were several hundred young persons, some of whom left home to go abroad with the permission of their legal guardians.

Some of the online legal guardians, some of whom are parents of the young persons in the new settlement in Guyana, have been making rumors that Jones is a person who should be charged with kidnapping. Furthermore, the allegations are made that, even if Jones did not kidnap any of these persons, he is helping them in Guyana against their wills and that in fact the persons held would be only too happy to reject their online legal guardians or relatives if they could.

The latest allegations against Jones sound just like so much humbug, just as past allegations sounded before Jones started what seems will be the greatest experiment in his career.

Jonestown is self-supporting. A great variety of crops are produced, which feed this tiny colony, of transported North Americans; sufficient crops are raised so that some produce goes to the

Relatives Praisestown, Gy.

any... When asked whether people responded... "It was so obvious. We talked about what they were doing, and all of them were engaged in some activity or work that was particularly important for them. We talked to anybody and everybody we wanted to, and we were surprised and walking around the facility. We went to the bakery, the bakery, the dairy, the sawmill, the canteen kitchen, the mess hall..."

Rev. Moore went on to say about the day care nursery, the accredited school, and a health facility that is... the best facility in the whole region in Guyana... Rev. and Mrs. Moore commented on the beauty of the inclusion of older people in the community life, and the facility with more than 5,000 volunteers, where old and young shared for pleasure or do volunteer work. Moore described both the medical and the educational services as... excellent... (one of the lectures, daughter is a nurse, the other is a teacher), and went on to speak of the project as a whole... a commendable of caring and sharing with the added dimension of love. In a sense it reminds me of a New Testament more community," the reflect-ment in the present sense of the

world, in the love and concern for all. It is a beautiful, heroic, creative project. It is absolutely magnificent. One newscaster commented Mrs. Moore seemed very impressed and asked would the describe it as "unique"... Yes... this answered... "It's a lovely word. Other specifics were provided as well about the library and quality of life in Jonestown. It is a cooperative... Food is provided for everyone. There's medical care for everyone, and educational opportunities for everyone. There are work needs and opportunities for the members of the community. One of the great things is the opportunity for some of the younger people particularly, to be learning right when that opportunity is not present here."

Mrs. Moore added that the housing is well suited to the specific needs of the residents. It's a compact city, and one thing they do encourage is the nuclear family. You can choose to have your own home, or, if you're a single person, you may live in a dormitory, whichever you prefer. The other thing have their next little yard and white picket-fence houses, with the opportunity to

[Continued on Page 24]

Rev. Moore said, "I'm John Moore, pastor of First United Methodist Church in Reno, Nevada. The two words that come to my mind as I try to reflect up my experience (of Jonestown) were 'negative' and 'amazing.' It dogged me mind to see that great clearing (of land) and to understand how so much could have been done in such a relatively short period of time. I think almost a thousand acres have been cleared, and most of it has already been planted with various crops.

"...I had a feeling of freedom. Neither in Georgetown, with 25 or 30 people coming and going all the time with total freedom, nor at the project itself did I have any feeling like anybody was being restricted or controlled or frightened in any way."

Recently Peoples Temple held a first conference to let the public hear about Jonestown. Guyana, from people who had just returned from a visit with their relatives at the Agricultural Project. Rev. John V. Moore, former superintendent of United Methodist Churches in Northern California, and his wife, Mrs. Barbara Moore, spent several days with their two daughters and grandson in Jonestown. They came from their home in Reno, Nev., to assist in the public the great work, and accomplishment of the living community in Guyana. The Moors are not members of Peoples Temple. They visited Guyana at their own expense, and traveled to Jonestown from Reno at their own expense for the press conference.

Peuples Temple | Relatives Praise Jonestown

Attorney General Cummings said that the medical center was also located in the area around the (medical) compound. "They are first thing every morning. Medical services are provided to every resident in the project, and extensive clinic work is done in the surrounding community. The medical compound is something you have never seen, and you probably won't see it unless you go there. It is almost a model of what a medical center should be."

189

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Approved	For Your Information	Notes and Return
As Requested	Initial for Clearance	For Communication
Comments	Instructions	Response Reply
File	Justify	See No
For Comments	Necessary Action	Signature

REMARKS OR ADDITIONAL ROUTING

Received one airline ticket from Doug Ellise  
 Geo - NYC - SFO (#8440)  
 440-201  
 11/17/78  
 Steven A. Romano

FROM: Name and Org. (Print)	ROOM NO. & BLDG.	FROM NO.
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David Greenblatt  
11/30/79

A close-up of a rectangular metal stamp with the word "WORLD" in a stylized, outlined font. The stamp is dark and appears to be part of a larger object, possibly a book cover or a piece of equipment. The letters are bold and have a slightly irregular, hand-stamped appearance. The background is dark and textured, suggesting a metallic surface.

Genealogy part #2

San Francisco

# Jones and Temple Under Investigation

COLEMAN traveled "through the halls of the Gov. Jim Hunt" office and included both workers, political consultants, and a president for real estate negotiation.

The building had been destroyed by various disasters of "poor" flesh, from the earthquake, flood, fire, and pestilence, and in various ways he was led to the church, spreading "preach" through which, the 4,000,000, malnourished, oppressed, and oppressed, in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Fresno, Bakersfield, and Redwood Valley, near Ukiah, in Mendocino county.

That he resigned the present face of the had been evident from the first moment of his appointment as director of the university commission on human rights in Indianapolis and before the resolution society ground out, he turned down a nomination by Mayor George Hanson to the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, and later accepted a nomination of a position on the city's governing authority, eventually. Chan was elected president of the commission earlier this year.

[illegible]

Many of the properties have been registered as "hot" or "cold" in the Chinese. These correspond to the changes in the temperature of the body but in the last years or so, investigations of Chinese distinguished scholars of the West, James and others, are emphasizing the study of the properties of the body and its principles.

The reason is, when the people of this town had a great desire to have a new school house, they had a meeting of the people and had a collection of money to build a new school house. The people of this town had a great desire to have a new school house, and they had a meeting of the people and had a collection of money to build a new school house.

The article alleged that members of the Yungas had conspired to obtain permission to use of national parks, for the purpose of selling them to the United States.

# THE WEST

up to write the "best" regional case-winning "abstract" were in reality about two of others; that is, they, poor and disadvantaged "Chicago babies" are very bad at abstracting and have nothing else to count and properly treat to the "sample."

The above was sent to the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C., on the 10th day of May, 1906.

Secretary of the Department of  
the United States for the

**Discipline**  
was used to  
achieve freedom

Several American authors, including Twain, Melville, and Hemingway, are included in the collection. The book is published by the University of Chicago Press, and is available in paperback for \$14.95.

[illegible]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/HR

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 PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_



subject is the Clayton antitrust law, which prohibits any person from buying or selling property in the Tampa — by persons other than individuals.

Last week, The Chronicle and other Bay Area news organizations reported further on allegations by some of the most trusted southern African business leaders that there

\* The non-observance of the spirit of French laws regarding questions had raised considerable criticism for church officers in London. It was reported at least 12,000 persons up and down the nation had been refused admittance to church services. The non-observance of the spirit of French laws regarding questions had raised considerable criticism for church officers in London. It was reported at least 12,000 persons up and down the nation had been refused admittance to church services.

conducted by a 100 per cent ethnic Mexican and Hispanic local business and through the efforts of the National Association of Mexican American Business Owners and Operators, no direct services were given. The distribution of materials, and both oral and written, was required to be given to the community by the church building, not the church itself. The church was not the target but the conduit, rather than the catalyst.

• The FBI came looking around for part time "consultants" "contractors" or "volunteers" to help in the investigation of Communist activities. Some of the people who were approached, however, turned out to be right wing radicals.

the real cause was reported to be severe skin rash -- likely of allergic origin, rather than food. During delivery, there was no contact with the specimens of food. Specimens of food delivered had been wrapped in plastic & were not touched by the staff. The staff was also wearing gloves and the specimens in plastic bags and the staff, with the advice of the hospital's infectious control, wore special plastic protective clothing and masks.

[illegible]

**President of Trinity College**—  
 He was called to his native land-  
 ing of Washington, where the  
 speaking of "Pearl" attracted  
 a large crowd. He then went to  
 Hartford to compare his views  
 with those of the president of the  
 college, and to discuss the  
 subject of the college's  
 future.

In private sessions, students learn from the district secretary how to use the district's resources. They are encouraged to ask more than 400 district members to support them. In fact, the district secretary in Chicago has been invited to meet and appear in front of the district board in Germany. The students will be invited to meet with him in Germany. The students will be invited to meet with him in Germany. The students will be invited to meet with him in Germany.

from the Federal Aviation Administration having by October 1965 reportedly demonstrated that the aircraft was safe to fly. "Despite the fact that the airplane was not safe to fly," the report stated, "the FAA, in its haste to get the airplane back in the air, failed to take the necessary steps to ensure that the airplane was safe to fly. The FAA's failure to take these steps was a direct result of the FAA's failure to properly supervise the aircraft's flight testing and to properly supervise the FAA's own flight testing. The FAA's failure to properly supervise the aircraft's flight testing and to properly supervise the FAA's own flight testing was a direct result of the FAA's failure to properly supervise the aircraft's flight testing and to properly supervise the FAA's own flight testing."

*Georgetown post*

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FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

AFFIDAVIT OF YULANDA D. A. CRAWFORD SHOWING

(830)

## THE TEACHINGS AND PRACTICES OF REV. JAMES

## WARREN JONES IN GUYANA, SOUTH AMERICA

I, Yulanda D. A. Crawford, certify as follows:

1. I was in Guyana, South America as a member of Peoples Temple from April 1, 1977 until June 29, 1977. Rev. James Warren Jones ("Jim Jones"), the leader of Peoples Temple, was in Guyana most of April and during the latter part of June, at which times I witnessed the following statements and practices by him.

2. Jim Jones said that the United States is the "most evil" nation in the world, referring to its political and industrial leaders as "capitalistic pigs". He said he would rather have his people dead than live in the United States.

3. Jim Jones prior to June said that people would be coming to live in Guyana for a temporary period of time. In June Jim Jones stated that the people he brings over from the United States will be staying in Guyana "permanently".

4. Jim Jones said that nobody will be permitted to leave Jonestown and that he was going to keep guards stationed around Jonestown to keep anybody from leaving. He said that he had guns and that if anyone tries to leave they will be killed ("offed") and their bodies will be left in the jungle and "we can say that we don't know what happened to you." He also said, "I can get a hit man for fifty dollars. It's not hard for me to get a hit man anywhere."

5. While still in the United States, Jim Jones asked the Temple members to turn all their guns over to him. I also saw ammunition being packed in crates for shipment to Guyana addressed to Peoples Temple from San Francisco. I heard Jim Jones say, "If anyone tries to start anything, we are ready and prepared to die for our cause."

6. Jim Jones said that black people and their sympathizers were going to be destroyed in the United States, that "the Ku Klux Klan is marching in the streets of San Francisco, Los Angeles, and cities back east". There was "fighting in the streets, and the drought in California is so bad, Los Angeles is being deserted".

X 7. Jim Jones said that everyone should turn in their passports and all their money to him, that nobody is to visit any local Guyanese people unless on a "mission" and in the company of other Temple members, that nobody is to make any telephone calls to relatives, that nobody was to send any mail to the United States without first getting it "cleared". All incoming mail was first received by Temple secretaries and read before being shown to the person addressed.

8. Jim Jones said that "I will lay my body down for this cause" and asked others to make the same promise, which they did by a show of hands, and also asked them to commit themselves to kill anyone attempting to hurt him.

9. Jim Jones ordered all of us to break our ties with families. He said that our highest and only loyalty should be "the cause", and that the only reason for staying in touch with our families was to collect inheritances when "they died off" and to keep them pacified "so as not to make trouble for the cause".



10. Jim Jones ordered us to "report" on one another to prevent "treason". His technique was to have everyone report to him (or his two or three most trusted leaders) all suspicious talk or behavior of others.

11. Jim Jones ordered people punished when they broke his rules. The punishments included food-deprivation, sleep-deprivation, hard labor, and eating South American hot peppers. I saw a teenager, Tommy Bogue, being forced to eat hot peppers at a public meeting.

12. So far as I know, only one person (Leon Broshears) out of 850 or more residents has dared to leave Jonestown since my mother, husband and I left on June 29, 1977. Before Jim Jones allowed me to leave, I was forced to promise him I would never speak against the church, and that if I did I would lose his "protection" and be "stabbed in the back". Furthermore, Jim Jones ordered me to sign a number of self-incriminating papers, including a statement that I was against the government of Guyana, that I had plotted against that government, that I was part of the PPP (Peoples Progressive Party), which is the opposition party in Guyana, and that I had come to Guyana to help the PPP. Jim Jones said the reason for signing those papers was to discredit me if I ever decided to leave the movement "and talk". Also, before leaving for Guyana, I was ordered to fabricate a story and sign it stating that I killed someone and threw the body in the ocean. I was told that if I ever caused Jim Jones trouble, he would give that statement to the police. He further intimidated me and others in the congregation by saying, "I, (Jim Jones) have Mafia connections, and they will stand with me all the way."

13. I heard him state to the congregation in Guyana that Marshall Kilduff, who wrote the first articles exposing him, was dead. He said, "The angels have taken care of him". We all knew the "angels" were his people who would do you in if you crossed Jim Jones.

14. Jim Jones ordered all telephone calls to relatives in the United States to be made in the presence of Temple members and after coaching. When my mother tried to call her brother in the United States and get him to stop criticizing the Temple, Jim Jones stood by her side and told her everything she was to say and then faulted her for not being forceful enough. He ordered us to tell our relatives in the United States to stop criticizing him or we would not be allowed to return home.

15. On numerous occasions I was in the congregation when he told us "I am God" and "there is no other God, and religion is the opium of the people." He stated he used religion only to get to the masses.

16. I recall several instances of Jim Jones stating he could silence critics or defectors by accusing them of being homosexuals, child abusers, terrorists or sexual deviates.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed at San Francisco, California on April 18, 1978.

*[Signature]*  
TOLANDER D. A. CHAMBERS

SUBJ: San Francisco

On April 18 1978 at San Francisco  
before me, the undersigned, a Deputy Public in and for said State, personally appeared  
Tolander D.A. Chambers  
known to me,  
to be the person whose name Tolander D.A. Chambers appeared in the within instrument,  
and acknowledged to me that he executed the same  
WITNESS my hand and official seal.

OFFICIAL SEAL  
GERALD S. WENGER  
DEPUTY PUBLIC - CALIFORNIA  
MY COM. EXPIRES APR 21, 1981  
San Francisco, CA 94104

Georgetown post #2

Georgetown, Guyana

850

August 2, 1978

Honorable Paul N. McCloskey  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman McCloskey:

Your letter of June 28, 1978 to Assistant Secretary Bennett was referred to the Embassy for reply.

A Consular Officer is planning a visit to the People's Temple Agricultural Community later this month. During his visit he will deliver the enclosed letter to Brian Bouquet. You may be assured that you will be informed of the results of the visit.

Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Dwyer  
Charge d'Affaires a.i.

RAD:cdh  
DRAFTED:CONS:RAM:cdh

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863

GUYANA

COPY FROM THE REGISTER OF DEATHS IN DIVISION NO. 1600 DISTRICT OF Georgetown IN THE YEAR 1975

No.	Sex and Place of Birth	Name and Surname and other description	Sex	Age	Known or Suspected Cause of Death	Signature, Position of Informant	When Registered	Register of Deaths
1	Male	Lina P. LANTIER (CAUCASIAN) Wife of deceased	Female	33	Heart Disease	Signature of Informant	When Registered	Register of Deaths

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/ODC/MR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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RELEASE DENIED ☐

NO 2010 RELEASED  
22 OF FOI EXEMPTIONS

Department  
of State

(REGISTRAR)

Georgetown post #2

Georgetown, Guyana

(879)

November 17, 1978

Ms. Lisa S. Gonzalez  
Office of Congressman John L. Burton  
450 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, California 94102

Dear Ms. Gonzalez:

Thank you for your letter of November 1, 1978 concerning Tina  
Grism. I am sure that by now you have received our Consul's  
letter to you of November 8, 1978 which crossed yours in the  
mail.

Sincerely,

John L. Burke  
Ambassador

Enclosure: Our Consul's letter  
dated 11/8/78

RE: [REDACTED]  
DRAFTED: CONE: DVElllce  
CLEARED: CONS: DVElllce

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Georgetown post #2

882

I, Bonnie Simon hereby  
authorize release of information concerning  
my residence and activities in Guyana to  
relatives and members of the Congress.

S/ Bonnie Simon

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
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George Washington #12

883

I, Mary Rodgers hereby  
authorize release of information concerning  
my residence and activities in Guyana to  
relatives and members of the Congress.

s/ Mary Rodgers

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Georgetown post #2

884

I, BRUCE OLIVER hereby authorize  
release of information concerning my residence and activities  
in Guyana to relatives and members of the Congress.

si Bruce Abner

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
RECEIVED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TO : \_\_\_\_\_  
FROM : \_\_\_\_\_  
SUBJECT : \_\_\_\_\_



885

S/ سید علیہ

[illegible]

Georgetown Post  
#2012

886

I, Lauretta Dina Chami hereby  
authorize release of information concerning  
my residence and activities in Guyana to  
relatives and members of the Congress.

S/ Lauretta D. Chami

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/LR

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887

I, DARRELL DEVERS hereby authorize  
release of information concerning my residence and activities  
in Guyana to relatives and members of the Congress.

S/ David Dixon

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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Georgetown

888

I. James Edwards hereby  
authorize release of information concerning  
my residence and activities in Guyana to  
relatives and members of the Congress.

James Edwards  
James Edwards

G-213679

26 Jan 76 SFO

28 NOV 20 MISSISSIPPI

work with animals

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JANUARY 11, 1978

I, MARSHALL FARRIS hereby authorize  
release of information concerning my residence and activities  
in Guyana to relatives and members of the Congress.

SI Marshall Farris

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Georgetown post  
#2

890

I, Donald Fiebt hereby  
authorize release of information concerning  
my residence and activities in Guyana to  
relatives and members of the Congress.

S/ Donald Fiebt

G 2562374 -- NOV. 19, 1976  
Los Angeles

4 JUN 32; Buffalo, NY

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Georgetown post  
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891

I, MARY GRIFITH hereby authorize  
release of information concerning my residence and activities  
in Guyana to relatives and members of the Congress.

SI Mary Griffith

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ROSCOE K. STONE	
TS AUTH.	
EXCISE	
DECISION	
REMARKS	

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892

I John Carvin hereby authorize release  
of information concerning my residence and  
activities in Guyana to relatives and members of  
Congress.

S/ John Carvin  
January 11, 1978

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Georgetown post #2

893

I, Antee Harper hereby  
authorize release of information concerning  
my residence and activities in Guyana to  
relatives and members of the Congress.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - NEW YORK	
MAR 11 1978	
PAID FOR REGISTRARS	

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Antee Harper  
11/9/78

Antee Harper

Appt ~~1-28-78~~ 1-28-78

1-28-78, Louisiana

61873971 issued 2-10-76

Forgetown post #2

894

I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby  
authorize release of information concerning  
my residence and activities in Guyana to  
relatives and members of the Congress.

S/ Charles Henderson

Arch 6-13-05 Teyfer

6-1831377

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*Georgetown post*

895

I, **DAVID HOWARD** hereby authorize  
release of information concerning my residence and activities  
in Guyana to relatives and members of the Congress.

*David Howard*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/GEORGE	
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Georgeanna post #2

896

I, LEARNIE THOMPSON hereby authorize release of information concerning my residence and activities in Guyana to relatives and members of the Congress.

S/ Leanne Thompson

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE 8/20/43  
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Hingetown Post #2

897

I, GERALD T. JOHNSON hereby authorize release of information concerning my residence and activities in Guyana to relatives and members of the Congress.

St. Bernard I. John

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CSC/MR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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PA or FOI REQUESTS \_\_\_\_\_

Georgetown post #2

898

I, **GREGORY WATKINS** hereby authorize  
release of information concerning my residence and activities  
in Guyana to relatives and members of the Congress.

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_

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# LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Department of State

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

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STATE 223461

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 223461

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INFO: CASE, 0000 0000, 0000 00

SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN STAN'S VISIT TO 0000

REF: STATE 27116; STATE 220000

1. REPRESENTATIVES OF L, SEC AND ARA/CA MET THIS MORNING WITH J. SCHWARTZMAN AND J. SPETER, STAFF MEMBERS WHO WILL BE ACCOMPANYING CONEL. A REPRESENTATIVE EXPLAINED IN SOME DETAIL THAT CONEL WOULD HAVE NO OFFICIAL AUTHORITY OR STATUS IN 0000 AND THAT NEITHER CONEL OR CONELST HAD A LEGAL RIGHT TO DEMAND ACCESS TO MEMBERS IN CONEL. SEC REPRESENTATIVES EXPLAINED THAT CONELAR OFFICERS HAD CONTACTED P.T. MEMBERS IN THE PAST AND HAD BEEN ACTIVE IN INVESTIGATING PRIOR ALLEGATIONS, BUT THAT THESE CONTACTS HAD BEEN STRICTLY ON A VOLUNTARY, COOPERATION BASIS. ANY CONTACTS BETWEEN CONEL AND P.T. MEMBERS WOULD HAVE TO BE ARRANGED ON THE INDIVIDUAL BASIS. IT WAS FURTHER EXPLAINED TO STAFFERS THAT ONE NIGHT, AS A MATTER OF COURTESY, FACILITATE EFFORTS TO MAKE CONTACT WITH P.T. MEMBERS, BUT THAT IT WAS UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO DO SO. STAFFERS WERE INFORMED THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD ONE FORCE P.T. TO GRANT ACCESS TO CONEL.

2. A REPRESENTATIVE EXPLAINED THAT PRIVACY ACT PROHIBITED THE DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN FILES ON INDIVIDUALS. DISCLOSURE IS PERMITTED PURSUANT TO AN OFFICIAL REQUEST FROM A COMMITTEE OR SUBCOMMITTEE OF CONGRESS OR DESIGNATED FROM A REQUEST FROM AN INDIVIDUAL CONGRESSMAN. HE WAS EXPLAINED THAT THE COMMITTEE REQUEST MUST BE IN WRITING, MUST IDENTIFY IN AN AS MUCH SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE THE INFORMATION REQUEST, MUST EXPLAIN WHY THE INFORMATION IS NEEDED, AND MUST CONTAIN ASSURANCES THAT ANY DOCUMENTS DISCLOSED TO THE COMMITTEE BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE AND NOT PASSED ON TO OTHER PERSONS. SCHWARTZMAN INQUIRED WHETHER ANY P.T. MEMBERS HAD WAIVED THEIR RIGHTS UNDER THE PRIVACY ACT. SEC EXPLAINED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME WAIVERS, BUT THAT THESE PERMITTED DISCLOSURE ONLY TO SPECIFIED PERSONS, USUALLY RELATIVES.

3. A REPRESENTATIVE BRIEFLY DISCUSSED FOIA ACT, NOTING THAT ALTHOUGH DOCUMENTS REQUESTED UNDER THAT ACT ARE EXEMPTED FROM PRIVACY ACT, THE STATUTE EXEMPTION TO THE PROTECTED DOCUMENTS THE DISCLOSURE OF WHICH WOULD CONSTITUTE AN UNLAWFUL VIOLATION OF PERSONAL PRIVACY AND THAT WOULD GENERALLY AUTHORIZE WITHHOLDING OF FILES ON INDIVIDUALS.

4. THE DISCUSSION IN STATE 27716, DEPARTMENT WAS DELETED INFORMED THAT NO CONCERNED RELATIVES WILL ACCOMPANY CONEL BUT THAT AS MANY AS 10 RELATIVES ARE EXPECTED TO BE IN DETENTION DURING CONEL VISIT. ALTHOUGH THESE RELATIVES WILL HAVE NO OFFICIAL CONNECTION WITH CONEL, CONTACT BETWEEN THEM AND CONEL SHOULD BE EXPECTED. SINCE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/NE

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Department of State Operations Center	
(GUYANA TASK FORCE)	

Situation Report No. 29

Situation in Guyana as of 1200 hours (EST), Dec 4, 1978

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ISTICE

We have now been informed that the list of 32 survivors who were given permission to depart on Sunday was in addition to the 6 who left on Saturday. Nine women and one child actually came out on Sunday. Three women and one man elected not to leave. Eighteen men were refused by the Captain of the Panam plane who is reported to have said that the FDI had promised to have U.S. Marshalls on the flight. Neither the Department nor Justice is aware of any prior discussion or request regarding Marshalls aboard commercial flights carrying survivors. Justice has however now made arrangements for Marshalls in this situation. Most of the 18 men refused transport on Sunday will probably depart Georgetown on Wednesday although some may trickle out on foreign airlines. A total of 23 survivors have now returned to the U.S.

The total of identified bodies has now reached 580.

This is the final SITREP. Continuing problems will be handled as follows: ARA by Robert Zimmermann who will be in ARA/CAR, X23449; PA by Jeff Dietrich in ARA/PPC, X23048; H by Catherine Thibodeau in H, X22163; SCS by Alan Gise, X26610; and military by Col. Robert Ramsey in the Operations Center, X23002 or 20564.

JOD PA  
JTY OFFICER  
ICC (LDX)

R.W. Zimmermann  
Guyana Working Group

Thomas R. Reynders  
Senior Watch Officer

UNCLASSIFIED



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UNCLASSIFIED

Department of State  
Operations Center

(GUYANA TASK FORCE)

Situation Report No. 28

Situation in Guyana as of 1300 hours (EST), Dec 2, 1978

The official list of survivors being permitted by the Guyanese Government to depart this weekend included a total of 32 names. Six are already enroute from Georgetown. Of the remaining 26, it is not clear that all will choose to leave tomorrow.

The Deputy Administrator for AID has approved for processing the unanticipated economic assistance requirement for help in leasing a short take off and landing aircraft to temporarily replace the twin Otter damaged at the time Congressman Ryan was murdered. The plane is urgently needed to supply food and medicine to interior towns without any other form of transportation.

Press calls have been greatly reduced during this morning, and generally limited to asking whether anything is new. They have not concentrated on the issue of the role of the State Department.

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PA/PRS  
FBI  
JUSTICE  
  
\*DOD PA  
DUTY OFFICER  
NMCC (LDX)

R.W. Zimmermann  
Guyana Working Group

R. Castrodale  
Senior Watch Officer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/INR

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UNCLASSIFIED

LIST

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Department of State  
Operations Center

(GUYANA TASK FORCE)

Situation Report No. 27

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3/S-O (2)  
3/S-S  
3/P

Situation in Guyana as of 2100 hours (EST), Dec. 1, 1978

INR.  
22/HO  
4ILREP (2)  
EDITOR (1)

Six more survivors were released by the GOG today and will be returning on Saturday's Pan Am flight to New York. The Embassy anticipates that 36 additional survivors will be released December 2 and has made reservations for them on Sunday's Pan Am flight.

TH (LDX)  
DOD (LDX)\*  
CIA (LDX)  
NSA (LDX)  
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SCA (5)

As they have been granted permission to depart by the Guyanese Government, survivors have informed the Embassy that they prefer to leave Guyana on commercial aircraft. Therefore, State has notified DOD, HEW, FBI, the Secret Service and other interested agencies that plans to fly survivors to Charleston by military aircraft have been cancelled. The remaining press contingent in the Charleston area has been informed.

4/  
PA/PRS  
FBI  
JUSTICE

The New York Times today reported that lawyers representing defectors from the Peoples Temple have charged the Department with laxness in acting on warnings of threats to the lives of Jonestown residents. Allegations of improper conduct against a US Foreign Service Officer were renewed in Friday's press briefing.

\*DOD PA  
DUTY OFFICER  
NMCC (LDX)

We are providing more facts to the press in an effort to put the story to rest.

US Consular Officers have attached consular seals to the Peoples Temple property in Jonestown. Seals were also attached to 103 crates of goods in Georgetown consigned to the Peoples Temple. Minister Green expressed moderate displeasure over the action but Ambassador Burke reminded the Minister he had unsuccessfully attempted to reach him to inform him of the necessity to take the step.

Discussions are underway both here and in Georgetown to explore ways the USG might recoup some of its

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/AR	
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CONFIDENTIAL

costs from the property of the Peoples Temple. Representatives of the Task Force, the Legal Advisor's Office and the Department of Justice discussed possibilities for moving against property in the United States; most options have major legal problems. Our legal advisor in Georgetown is also giving this issue high priority. The legal situation with respect to the property in Guyana is complicated by the fact that the Peoples Temple may have been incorporated in Guyana and the ensuing difficulty of demonstrating that any of the property was privately owned by deceased American citizens. The Embassy speculates that the most efficient way to resolve the situation may be a receivership proceeding in which all interested parties, including the USG, can assert claims.

The four Department of Justice technical experts have arrived in Georgetown and have established working relationships with their GOC counterparts. They will not, however, be permitted to interview the survivors or anyone else. The Embassy is considering the possibility of inviting individual survivors to come to the Embassy, possibly with assurances they would not be interviewed by the FBI on their return to the US. Justice has not yet moved on providing a pathologist as requested by the GOC.

Dover reports that 778 bodies have been embalmed and a total of 235 have been positively identified. Of the first 99 positive identifications received by the Department, next of kin in 81 cases have been identified and notified. The process is continuing. No bodies have yet left Dover AFB. The release and shipment of bodies awaits agreement between Delaware state officials, the USG and Guyanese authorities concerning the issuance of death certificates. We are exploring the acceptability of issuing interim, general certificates to be followed later by the official certificates issued by the Government of Guyana.

CONFIDENTIAL

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AID is studying the use of contingency funds to lease an aircraft to replace the damaged Guyana Airways Otter. We have major problems with funding the purchase of spare parts to repair Guyanese Defense Force helicopters, the highest priority of the GOG.

  
R.L. Bruce  
Guyana Working Group

  
T. Martin  
Senior Watch Officer

CONFIDENTIAL

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Department of State  
Operations Center

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

(GUYANA TASK FORCE)

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Situation Report No. 26

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S/S (3) Situation in Guyana as of 2100 hours (EST), Nov. 30, 1978

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INR.

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JUSTICE

DOD PA

DUTY OFFICER

JMCC (LDX)

Four technical experts from the Department of Justice are scheduled to arrive in Georgetown this evening to work with the Guyanese Government in their ongoing investigation of the Jonestown affair. The GOG is very sensitive about their presence and the term "FBI" is not being used. The men, who will work with their Guyanese counterparts, are experts in ballistics, sound recordings, and photography.

The Guyanese Government has appointed a conservator for the Peoples Temple assets in Guyana. The Embassy is making progress in retaining Guyanese legal counsel.

Embassy Georgetown reports that five Peoples Temple members (four of whom are Americans, including two survivors) may have been granted Guyanese citizenship earlier this year in order to meet requirements for forming a local corporation to cover Peoples Temple activities in Guyana. This development is being studied in terms of its possible effect on US actions with regard to Peoples Temple assets. Corporate status may preclude the Embassy from claiming custody of organizational property.

We have received from Georgetown the death certificate and autopsy report for Congressman Ryan. Copies have been delivered to the FBI and SCS. Congressional requests for these documents are being referred to the Justice Department.

In response to a call from the Governor of Delaware, John Bushnell has agreed that there will be no mass burial in Delaware of unidentified bodies, and that, at such time as we are reviewing options, we will seek the views of the State government regarding any unidentified or unclaimed bodies.

*Stephen R. Gibson*

Stephen R. Gibson  
Guyana Working Group

*James E. Thyden*

James E. Thyden  
Senior Watch Officer

CONFIDENTIAL

# CONFIDENTIAL Department of State

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

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STATE 383996

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C O C K Y I D E N Y I K L STATE 383996

LONDON FOR MICHAEL FINLEY

L.O. 110521 GDS

TAGL: CACC, OWEN, WYAH, LEOI, CY

SUBJECT: SITUATION REPORT NO. 25, 11/30/78, 1100 WEST  
REF: STATE 383996

1. FOUR TECHNICAL EXPERTS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
ARE SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN GEORGETOWN THIS EVENING TO  
WORK WITH THE GUYANESE GOVERNMENT IN THEIR ONGOING IN-  
VESTIGATION OF THE GEORGETOWN AFFAIR. THE GDS IS VERY  
SENSITIVE ABOUT THEIR PRESENCE AND THE TERM "FBI" IS NOT  
BEING USED. THE MEN WHO WILL WORK WITH THEIR GUYANESE  
COUNTERPARTS, ARE EXPERTS IN BALLISTICS, SOUND RECORDING,  
AND PHOTOGRAPHY.

2. THE GUYANESE GOVERNMENT HAS APPOINTED A CONSERVATOR FOR  
THE PEOPLES TEMPLE ASSETS IN GUYANA. THE EMBASSY IS MAKING  
PROGRESS IN RETAINING GUYANESE LEGAL COUNSEL.

3. EMBASSY GEORGETOWN REPORTS THAT FIVE PEOPLES TEMPLE  
MEMBERS FOUR OF WHOM ARE AMERICANS, INCLUDING TWO NEW  
YORKERS MAY HAVE BEEN GRANTED GUYANESE CITIZENSHIP EARLIER  
THIS YEAR IN ORDER TO MEET REQUIREMENTS FOR FORMING A LOCAL  
CORPORATION TO COVER PEOPLES TEMPLE ACTIVITIES IN GUYANA.  
THIS DEVELOPMENT IS BEING STUDIED IN TERMS OF ITS POSSIBLE

EFFECT ON US ACTIONS WITH REGARD TO PEOPLES TEMPLE  
ASSETS. CORPORATE STATUS MAY PRECLUDE THE EMBASSY FROM  
CLAIMING CUSTODY OF ORGANIZATIONAL PROPERTY.

4. WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM GEORGETOWN THE DEATH CERTIFICATE  
AND AUTOPSY REPORT FOR CONSPIRATOR RYAN. COPIES HAVE  
BEEN RELAYED TO THE FBI AND DOJ. CONVENTIONAL REQUESTS  
FOR THESE DOCUMENTS ARE BEING REFERRED TO THE JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT.

CONFIDENTIAL

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## Situation Report No. 25

The US marshals assigned to accompany the Peoples Temple survivors from Georgetown to Charleston as part of the Air Force crew have been asked to stand down from alert until we receive notice that a considerable number of survivors have been released by the GOG and wish USG transportation. The marshals will be able to return to Charleston within ~~six~~ hours of being notified.

**GDS**

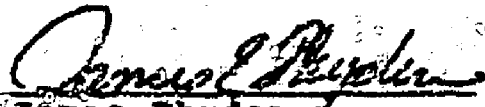
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CONFIDENTIAL

Dover reports that six more bodies have been identified, bringing the total of positively identified dead to 46. Dover has also announced that the final count of bodies received in the US stands at 911.

The Department of Justice has arranged for autopsies to be performed on Reverend James Jones, at the request of the Guyanese Government, and on Jones' mistress, Maria Katsaris.

  
R.L. Bruce  
Guyana Working Group

  
James Thyden  
Senior Watch Officer

CONFIDENTIAL



**DIST**

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Department of State  
Operations Center

(GUYANA TASK FORCE)

Situation Report

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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RELEASE DENIED

PA HOUSE DEPT. OF STATE Nov. 28, 1978

Situation in Guyana as of 2300

The U.S. military presence in Guyana now consists of two extended-range Huey helicopters, seven UH-1 crewmen, and one Lt. Col. SOUTHCOM liaison officer (who will leave within 48 hours). The eight-man Air Force security guard unit has departed for the United States.

Seven elderly members of the Peoples Temple have reservations to the United States Wednesday on a Pan Am flight to New York. They will be accompanied by a U.S. consular officer who was temporarily assigned to Guyana during the crisis. HEW, FBI and the Secret Service have been notified and are planning for the arrival. The three Peoples Temple members who are still hospitalized seem to be recovering. It is still unknown when they will be released and well enough to travel. The AID doctor has examined them, and they have been visited several times by a consular officer. The military is ready to evacuate them by special military aircraft when needed. The Embassy still has no definite word on the release of the other survivors.

Department today received a mailgram from Bishop Leroy Chinn who claims to be General Overseer of the Peoples Temple movement. He blames the death of Congressman Ryan and "those people in Guyana" on racism of the U.S., not Reverend Jones. He warns that if the U.S. does not stop the racism here, "these things" will take place within the U.S. He stated that he has notified his attorneys to file suit against the USG to keep the gold, checks and all money belonging to the Peoples Temple from "going back into the U.S. Treasury." We have passed the mailgram to Land Department of Justice.

The GOG has finally agreed to allow the LEGATT to photograph fingerprint cards under the supervision of the immigration authorities. The undeveloped film will be sent back to the United States with the consular officer returning tomorrow night. A Guyanese medical official has agreed to provide death certificates on the basis

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\*DOD PA  
DUTY OFFICER  
NMCC (LDX)

CONFIDENTIAL

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of confirmed identification from Dover. SCS has sent the first list of 33 names to the Embassy.

Radio Barbados has interviewed Tim Carter, one of the survivors, and is reporting that, three days before Congressman Ryan was killed, Carter told Jones that he would be killed by anti-Peoples Temple groups. Radio Barbados speculates that the information convinced Jones to put an end to the Peoples Temple movement in Guyana.



Stephen R. Gibson  
Guyana Working Group



Tom Beynders  
Senior Watch Officer

CONFIDENTIAL

**CONFIDENTIAL**

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Department of State  
Operations Center

(GUYANA TASK FORCE)

Situation Report

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RELEASE DETERMINED

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Situation in Guyana as of 2400 hours (EST), Nov. 27 1978

US military retrograde operations have been completed; the Joint Task Force in Guyana and the Crisis Action Team in the Pentagon have been disbanded. The remaining CH-53 helicopters (Jolly Green Giants) will depart Guyana at first light Tuesday, November 28, leaving two extended-range Hueys, their crews and [an eight-man Air Force security guard to support US Embassy Georgetown.]

Ambassador Burke met with Prime Minister Burnham to urge him to accept the assistance of either FBI or Department of Justice personnel in the GOG's investigations. We anticipate the Guyanese Cabinet will make a decision on the matter November 28.

According to San Francisco police, the assassinations of Mayor George Moscone and City Supervisor Harvey Milk Monday afternoon appear to be unrelated to the events in Guyana. A disgruntled office seeker and former member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors (as was Rev. Jones) is being held in connection with the shootings. The event is likely to increase the psychological strains on those Jonestown survivors who are fearful for their personal safety.

The Guyanese have authorized seven more members of the Peoples Temple to leave the country. All are over sixty years of age. The Embassy plans to offer them departure arrangements on the Wednesday Pan Am flight for the US. There would then be 72 Peoples Temple survivors remaining in Georgetown.

We continue to receive follow-up inquiries regarding identification of deceased and the welfare and whereabouts of survivors. Dover AFB has positively identified forty bodies and SCS is in the process of notifying next of kin regarding disposition of remains, but no next of kin have yet been identified in some cases.

The State Department Task Force has received many telephone calls from Congressional offices and interested public asking: who made the decision to mount the Guyana

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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operation?; what is the legal authority being used to pay for movement of bodies to the US?; and what are the costs involved? Legal and Management officers are preparing guidance to respond to these questions.

A first draft has been completed of a response to Congressman Zablocki's letter asking for data concerning the roles of the Department and Embassy Georgetown with regard to the activities of the Peoples Temple in Guyana. The draft includes a chronology of Embassy/Department-Peoples Temple contacts; a memorandum detailing Embassy-GOG contacts and a brief memorandum explaining how the Consuls' visits to Jonestown were conducted.

  
Robert Bruce  
Guyana Working Group

  
Tom Reynders  
Senior Watch Officer

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STAFF WORKED LONG HOURS UNDER UNIMAGINABLY TRYING CONDITIONS. OUR HELICOPTER UNITS IN GUYANA FLEW A TOTAL OF 271 HOURS AND THERE WERE 60 FLIGHTS BY C-141 AND C-130 CARGO PLANES. THE GUYANESE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN GENERALLY SUPPORTIVE OF OUR EFFORT BY FACILITATING OUR MOVEMENT IN AND OUT OF THE COUNTRY. THE GUYANESE, HOWEVER, HAVE CONSIDERED THE DISPOSITION OF THE REMAINS TO BE ESSENTIALLY AN AMERICAN PROBLEM; IDENTIFICATION AND DIGNIFIED BURIAL IN ISOLATED JONESTOWN WERE BEYOND GUYANA'S CAPABILITIES.

4. THE GUYANESE COOPERATED FULLY IN THE SEARCH FOR SURVIVORS IN THE ALMOST UNACCESSIBLE JUNGLE AROUND JONESTOWN. EVEN BEFORE THE US WAS ABLE TO DEPLOY HELICOPTERS TO SUPPORT THE SEARCH OPERATION, THE GOG HAD 300-400 MEN INVOLVED IN THE SEARCH THROUGH THE JUNGLE AND ALONG THE RIVER BANKS. INDIAN GUIDES FROM THE AREA WERE PARTICULARLY VALUABLE. ONCE US AIRLIFT WAS AVAILABLE VIRTUALLY EVERY SETTLEMENT IN NORTHWEST GUYANA WAS VISITED BY JOINT US GOG TEAMS TO SEEK SIGNS OF POTENTIAL SURVIVORS. ASIDE FROM A SMALL NUMBER WHO HID BRIEFLY IN THE NEARBY JUNGLE AND RETURNED EARLY IN THE WEEK SURVIVORS HAVE NOT BEEN FOUND, INDICATING THAT VERY FEW FLED INTO THE JUNGLE DURING THE MASS MURDER/SUICIDE.

5. THE GOG HAS, NEVERTHELESS, TAKEN A VERY DIRECT INTEREST IN POSSIBLE CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY AND IS DETAINING JONESTOWN SURVIVORS AS EITHER SUSPECTS OR MATERIAL WITNESSES. TWO PERSONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN CHARGED WITH MURDER AND WILL BE TRIED IN GUYANA. THE GOG HAS ALSO SEALED OFF THE SITE OF THE PEOPLES TEMPLE COMMUNITY PENDING DECISION ON ITS DISPOSITION. THE GUYANESE HAVE BEEN RELUCTANT TO PERMIT US TO PLAY A ROLE IN THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION IN GUYANA BUT WE ARE SEEKING TO CO-OPERATE WITH THEM IN THE EVALUATION OF EVIDENCE.

6. EIGHTY SURVIVORS OF THE JONESTOWN COLONY REMAIN IN GUYANA UNDER GOG CONTROL. THEY ARE DIVIDED INTO TWO FACTIONS: THOSE WHO ESCAPED DEATH IN THE MURDER/SUICIDE AND THOSE PEOPLES TEMPLE MEMBERS WHO HAPPENED TO BE IN GEORGETOWN DURING THE TRAGEDY AND WERE LATER DETAINED BY THE GOG. THE TWO GROUPS HOLD STRONG ANTHOSITY FOR ONE ANOTHER AND ARE BEING QUARTERED SEPARATELY. THE GOG HAS NOT YET DETERMINED WHEN THEY WILL BE PERMITTED TO LEAVE. WE ARE PREPARED TO RETURN THEM ALL TO THE US AS SOON AS THEY ARE RELEASED. ONLY ONE ELDERLY AND ILL JONESTOWN SURVIVOR HAS THUS FAR BEEN PERMITTED TO LEAVE GUYANA.

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7. THE PROPORTIONS OF THE JONESTOWN TRAGEDY HAVE TRANSCENDED THE CAPACITY OF MOST AMERICANS TO UNDERSTAND. IT BECAME A MAJOR MEDIA EVENT - DOMINATING TV NEWS AND THE FRONT PAGES OF NEWSPAPERS FOR OVER A WEEK. THE LOCATION OF EVENTS IN AN ISOLATED AREA 320 MILES BY AIR FROM THE CAPITAL OF GEORGETOWN SURROUNDED BY JUNGLE CANOPY AND WITHOUT LAND ACCESS HAS ADDED TO THE MYSTERY AND INTEREST IN THE STORY. HOWEVER, THE EVENTS APPEAR TO HAVE GROWN OUT OF THE INTERNAL DYNAMICS OF A COMMUNITY WHICH WAS ALMOST ENTIRELY AMERICAN; THE GOV HAD LITTLE TO DO WITH THE COMMUNITY EXCEPT FOR ALLOWING IT TO ESTABLISH ITSELF IN A FRONTIER AREA. OF COURSE, AS GUYANA IS ITSELF A MULTI-RACIAL COMMUNITY WITH RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, A WIDE SPECTRUM OF RELIGIOUS PRACTICES AND A GOVERNMENT POLICY OF ENCOURAGING SOCIALISM AND COOPERATIVES, THE PEOPLES TEMPLE FOUND THE GUYANA ATMOSPHERE MORE OPEN TO ITS IDEAS THAN MANY ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS. WHILE THE MAIN FOCUS IN THE US MEDIA HAS BEEN ON THE EVENTS THEMSELVES AND THE TASK OF RETURNING THE BODIES TO THE US, THE MEDIA HAS ALSO FOCUSED ATTENTION ON THE ROLE OF THE DEPARTMENT IN DEALING WITH AMERICAN CITIZENS ABROAD.

8. ACCORDING TO SAN FRANCISCO POLICE THE ASSASSINATIONS OF MAYOR GEORGE MOSCONE AND CITY SUPERVISOR HARVEY MILK NOVEMBER 27 APPEAR TO BE UNRELATED TO THE EVENTS IN GUYANA. A DISGRUNTLED OFFICE SEEKER AND FORMER MEMBER OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IS BEING HELD IN CONNECTION WITH THE SHOOTING. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS THAT THE PEOPLES TEMPLE HAD NAMED A "HIT SQUAD" TO ELIMINATE PROMINENT OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THE MAYOR, AND THE SHOOTING IS LIKELY TO CREATE ADDITIONAL PSYCHOLOGICAL STRAINS ON THOSE JONESTOWN SURVIVORS WHO HAVE EXPRESSED FEAR FOR THEIR PERSONAL SAFETY.

9. THE PRINCIPAL ISSUES THAT HAVE BEEN RAISED THUS FAR AND THAT ARE LIKELY TO RECEIVE FURTHER ATTENTION AND OUR RESPONSES ARE:

Q. COULD VIOLENCE HAVE BEEN AVERTED? WAS CONGRESSMAN RYAN GIVEN SUFFICIENT WARNING OF THE DANGER HE FACED? SHOULD HE HAVE BEEN GIVEN MORE PROTECTION DURING HIS VISIT TO JONESTOWN?

A. DEPARTMENT BRIEFED RYAN AND STAFF ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. RYAN HAD ALSO RECEIVED INFORMATION ON SITUATION FROM HIS OWN SOURCES. BECAUSE CONSULAR OFFICER HAD VISITED GEORGETOWN FOUR TIMES IN 1978 WITHOUT DIFFICULTY AND OTHERS ESPECIALLY CALIFORNIA OFFICIALS ALSO VISITED, HE HAD NO REASON TO BELIEVE THERE WOULD BE A MAJOR

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VIOLENT REACTION. HE TOLD THE CODEL THAT THE PRESENCE OF PRESS AND CONCERNED FAMILY WITH THE CODEL COULD CREATE PROBLEMS. WE EMPHASIZED THAT THE CODEL COULD VISIT ONLY WITH THE PRIOR AUTHORIZATION OF THE PEOPLES TEMPLE.

2. DID EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICERS PURSUE AGGRESSIVELY ENOUGH QUESTIONS OF MISTREATMENT OF JONESTOWN INHABITANTS OR INVESTIGATE THOROUGHLY ALLEGATIONS THAT SOME WERE BEING HELD THERE AGAINST THEIR WILL?

A. DURING CONSULAR VISITS SOME 50 INTERVIEWS WERE HELD WITH INDIVIDUALS ALLEGEDLY BEING HELD AGAINST THEIR WILL. THESE MEETINGS WERE PRIVATE, OUT OF EARSHOT, IN OPEN FIELDS, AND IN ALL CASES INDIVIDUALS DENIED BEING MISTREATED OR FORCED TO REMAIN IN JONESTOWN. THE CONSULAR OFFICERS SAW NO EVIDENCE OF MISTREATMENT ON THEIR VISITS.

Q. WHAT IS THE USG'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF CITIZENS WHO JOIN UNORTHODOX CULTS AND TAKE UP RESIDENCE ABROAD?

A. THERE ARE LIMITS ON WHAT THE USG CAN DO - BY BILL OF RIGHTS REGARDING FREEDOM OF RELIGION, AND BY PRACTICAL RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY SCARCITY OF FUNDS AND PERSONNEL. NEVERTHELESS WE HAD DEVOTED A GREAT DEAL MORE TIME, EFFORT AND ATTENTION TO THIS GROUP THAN TO ALMOST ANY OTHER GROUP OF AMERICANS LIVING ABROAD.

Q. WHY WERE EARLY COUNTS OF BODIES IN JONESTOWN SO FAR SHORT OF THE APPARENT FINAL COUNT?

A. THE FIRST PRELIMINARY COUNT WAS PROVIDED TO US BY THE GOG. WHEN US MILITARY BEGAN TO PROCESS BODIES FOR RETURN TO THE US THEY FOUND BODIES LAYERED AT THE CENTER OF THE CAMP, LARGER BODIES COVERING CHILDREN.

Q. WHAT WAS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN JONES AND THE GOG?

A. IT IS A FACT THAT THE GOG GAVE PERMISSION FOR JONES TO ESTABLISH HIS SETTLEMENT IN GUYANA AND THAT JONES WAS OFTEN SEEN WITH HIGH OFFICIALS OF THE GUYANESE GOVERNMENT.

Q. SHOULD THE USG HAVE PAID FOR THE RETURN OF THE REMAINS OF THE JONESTOWN INHABITANTS TO THE US?

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A. GIVEN THE ENORMITY OF THE TASK, ISOLATION OF JONESTOWN, AND INABILITY OF GOG TO IDENTIFY DEAD AND PROVIDE ADEQUATE BURIAL IT WAS DECIDED TO HAVE US MILITARY TRANSPORT BODIES BACK TO THE US.

ADDITIONALLY, GOG HAD REQUESTED US TO REMOVE THE BODIES FROM GUYANA.

10. MANY OF THESE QUESTIONS WILL BE TREATED MORE FULLY IN THE DEPARTMENT'S REPLY TO AN INQUIRY FROM THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE ASKING FOR DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE ROLE OF US OFFICIALS IN DEALING WITH THE PEOPLES TEMPLE SINCE IT ESTABLISHED ITS COLONY IN GUYANA AND FOR OUR VIEWS ON ITS RELATIONS WITH THE GOG.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CN/HR

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Department of State  
Operations Center

(GUYANA TASK FORCE)

Situation Report No. 1400

Situation in Guayana as of 0600 hours (EST), Nov. 20 1978

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DUTY OFFICER  
NMOC (LDX)

The final count of bodies removed from Jonestown and transported to Dover Air Force Base is being confirmed but will total 912 or 913. Personnel at Dover are continuing the slow and difficult process of attempting to identify the victims. SCS is collating Guyana immigration files with passport applications in our files to prepare a next of kin list. The medical records from Jonestown are scheduled in Dover tonight and should prove helpful in the identification process. In a reversal, the Guyanese decided not to permit fingerprint cards in official immigration files to leave the country. Our Embassy is making arrangements to have the cards photographed and the film sent to Dover to help in the identification process.

The Bureau of Consular Affairs has participated in the Department's twenty-four hour multi-bureau and multi-agency Guyana Task Force. Between 10 and 20 officers and staff have manned nine telephone lines. It is conservatively estimated that they have handled 4,600 telephone calls from relatives and friends of the victims and the general public. As part of the effort to identify the victims and inform next of kin, the SCS staff has sent over 1,000 names of possible People's Temple members resident in Guyana to the Embassy on the basis of information telephoned into the Department. The SCS job has really just begun; they will have a major role in obtaining information to assist in identifying bodies and notifying next of kin.

There is still no definite word on when the Guyanese will release survivors. The Embassy may learn something on Monday. Preparations to receive survivors at Charleston AFB are well advanced, but there may well be problems as the large press contingent sees this as a major media event, while many of the survivors still fear for their lives and may not want to be photographed.

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The U.S. military retrograde operations continue. Approximately half of the sixteen missions scheduled will be completed by morning. Reduced helicopter support for the Embassy will be retained for the time being. Two extended range Hueys are being sent to Guyana to replace the H-53's for this purpose. The Air Force is also making contingency plans to pick up survivors and ferry them to the U.S. on twenty-four hour notice.

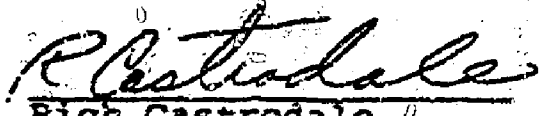
Ambassador Burke has an appointment to meet with Prime Minister Burnham at his country place at 0800 hours EST time Monday to discuss the issue of FBI presence and related matters.

We are still consulting with the Embassy on the retention of local legal counsel for the USG in connection with events in Jonestown. In addition, a member of the Department's Legal Office will arrive in Georgetown no later than Tuesday evening to assist the Embassy.

In response to press inquiries we have asked the Embassy to verify information passed to us last week to the effect that Guyanese authorities intended to conduct sample autopsies at Jonestown.

With the completion of the removal of the bodies from Guyana and the rapid phase down of military operations, situation reports will be prepared only once a day.

  
Robert L. Bruce  
Guyana Working Group

  
Rich Castrodale  
Senior Watch Officer

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LIST

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Department of State  
Operations Center

(GUYANA TASK FORCE)

Situation Report No. 20

Situation in Guayana as of 0800 hours (EST), Nov. 25, 1978

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DUTY OFFICER  
NMOC (LDX)

As of 0800 (EST), the current count, according to the Joint Task Force Commander, is 794 bodies, although more may still be found in Jonestown. Ambassador Burke and the Commander will evaluate the need for US military personnel to remain at the Jonestown area and will inform the Department of their decision.

One C-141 with 110 bodies will arrive at Dover at 1130 (EST) today, bringing the total bodies returned to 532. A second flight is due to depart Georgetown at 1000 (EST). While there is a bottleneck as regards transfer cases, additional cases are en route and it may be possible to remove all bodies from Guyana by tonight. All should be out by tomorrow.

There is still no word on when the Guyanese Government will permit the departure of the surviving members of the People's Temple. Georgetown Radio announced that Charles Beikman had been formally charged with the murder (in Georgetown) of Sharon Amos and her children. Together with Larry Layton, this makes two People's Temple members against whom charges have been brought. Three others are detained and under investigation for illegal possession of firearms.

A small cemetery containing five graves was located at Jonestown. Five deaths had been reported to Embassy Consular Officers earlier. Tags initially put on bodies by local officials were prepared with water soluble ink, which has since become unreadable with the rain. Many bodies previously identified will have to be identified again. A final count revealed 847 beds in the Jonestown complex.

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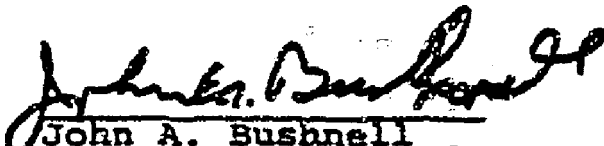
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The Department has authorized the Embassy to retain an attorney. Initial contact with an attorney was made yesterday, but arrangements have not yet been worked out.

Embassy Georgetown reports that two basic problems have complicated relations with the media -- the lack of US Government transportation for the press to Jonestown and deficiencies in communications facilities. The Guyanese Ministry of Information has arranged some flights to Jonestown in GOG aircraft; thereby leading to charges of "favoritism" from those left behind.

Most of the parts requested by the Guyanese for their helicopters have been located; however, no way has been found yet to pay for these items. DOD lawyers have questioned the legal authority for providing equipment to the Guyanese police. We will be looking into the matter today.

  
John A. Bushnell  
Guyana Working Group

  
T. Reynders  
Senior Watch Officer

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Department of State  
Operations Center

(GUYANA TASK FORCE)

Situation Report No. 19

Situation in Guayana as of 1800 hours (EST), November 24, 1978

There are close to 800 dead from the Jonestown calamity, according to the latest count. Embassy Georgetown reported at 1100 EST that in addition to the 485 bodies that have already been taken from the settlement, and another 20 that had been prepared for shipment, there remained at least 270 other bodies. All bodies still in Guyana will be brought to Dover AFB. Two C-141's departed from Georgetown today with a total of 152 bodies. They are due to arrive in Dover at 1930 and 2050 EST. This will bring the total number of bodies at Dover to 422.

The search for members of the settlement who might have fled continues, although we now estimate that the possible number is quite small, perhaps none. Since Tuesday the Guyanese Defense Force has been using a battalion-size force (300 to 400 men) to conduct ground searches along jungle trails in the region. All trails out of Jamestown have been searched and the inhabitants along them have been questioned. US aircraft have been since Tuesday reconnoitering the area surrounding Jonestown, using bull horns to call any People's Temple members who might be in the bush. Today two US officers reconnoitered the trails leading to Venezuela by helicopter and another officer led a patrol through the jungle on a route bearing 325° from Jonestown, thus following the discovered escape plan of the People's Temple.

The Guyanese Government informed Embassy Georgetown that it will not be possible for the PT members in Georgetown to return to the United States for at least another 48 hours. We still await the Government's

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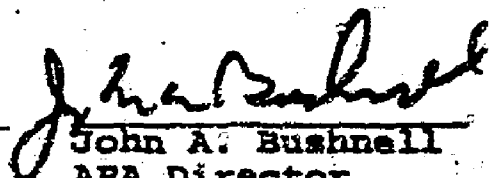
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response to our request that they reverse their decision not to allow an FBI team into the country.

Deputy Prime Minister Ptolomy Reid made a brief, factual statement to Parliament today on the murder of Congressman Ryan and the Jonestown occurrence. Shortly before he spoke, our Embassy advised him of the latest count. Reid explained that the Government had decided to lease the tract to the People's Temple because of the group's apparent interest in agriculture and social service. Reid also said that charges of murder would be brought against the prime suspect in the death of Sharon Amos and her children, although he did not identify this individual. Parliament will debate the Jonestown occurrence at a later date.

  
John A. Bushnell  
ARA Director  
Guyana Working Group

  
S. Valerga  
Senior Watch Officer

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Department of State  
Operations Center

(GUYANA WORKING GROUP)

Situation Report No. 18

DEPARTMENT OF STATE **915**  
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Situation in Guyana as of 0730 hours (EST), November 24, 1978

Embassy Georgetown has just reported by telephone that the number of bodies in Jonestown is now estimated at closer to 600 than to 400. Detailed reasons for this new count are not available. Last night we were told that additional bodies of infants especially were found underneath when bodies were picked up. It also appears that the initial 400-410 count may have been only a rough estimate.

Four aircraft have now arrived at Dover AFB bearing the remains of 270 persons. One C-141 is standing by in Puerto Rico and will proceed to Georgetown as additional bodies are brought down from Jonestown. SCA is continuing its efforts to locate next of kin. So far, it has not been possible to locate next of kin for 65 of the 174 dead identified in Guyana.

The U.S. Joint Task Commander in Guyana intends to continue shuttling HH-53s to Jonestown today for the recovery of bodies. Should the weather hold and no maintenance problems be encountered, it is anticipated that all the first 400 bodies will be recovered by late this afternoon and en route to the U.S. this evening. Because transfer cases will have to be cleaned and returned to Guyana removal of a substantial number of additional bodies will require another 24-48 hours. Beginning today, additional search and visual reconnaissance efforts, also utilizing loudspeakers, will be undertaken in the Jonestown area for survivors.

DOD is working to locate the equipment and supplies requested by the Guyanese. Some of the items listed are not in the DOD inventory and will have to be procured from GSA or other sources. We have received the necessary identifying data for the helicopter spare parts; DOD has passed the information to the Bell Corporation. The question of funding the purchase of the parts remains to be resolved.

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*Stephen R. Bushnell*  
For John A. Bushnell  
ARA Director  
Guyana Working Group

*Rich Castrodale*  
Rich Castrodale  
Senior Watch Officer

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Operations Center  
(GUYANA WORKING GROUP)

Situation Report No. 17

Situation in Guyana as of 2400 (EST), November 23, 1978

Three C-141 aircraft carrying a total of 202 bodies have arrived at Dover AFB; a fourth flight carrying sixty-eight bodies is scheduled to arrive 0200 hours EST November 24. Another 140 bodies remain in the Jonestown area, most of them prepared for shipment. Barring unforeseen circumstances all the 410 (including the five bodies from Georgetown) will have been evacuated to the US by November 24. The Embassy has given highest praise to the US military personnel involved in the airlift and processing operations who have been working long hours under almost unimaginable conditions given the elapsed time since the deaths.

The Embassy has confirmed 78 "survivors"; one US helicopter committed to search and rescue operations throughout the day did not find any new survivors in the Jonestown area. The mixed US-Guyanese crew reported that the heavy canopy made visual search difficult. They have concentrated on river banks, trails and jungle paths. The helicopter crew talked with Indians and visited the site of a former People's Temple (PT) store in a coastal town; but they obtained no additional information about survivors. The Guyanese police search effort has continued on the ground with US forces providing supplies, equipment and airlift. Tomorrow more helicopters will be devoted to the search.

The Task Force has authorized (by telephone) Embassy to proceed with offer of monetary reward to Guyanese in area for information leading to discovery of additional survivors or bodies. DOD has been asked to expedite delivery of additional equipment requested by GOG for search operations including such items as small river boats and outboard motors, life jackets, and snake bite kits. US personnel and material are likely to be required in Guyana for an indeterminate period of time to participate in search and rescue operations.

Embassy Georgetown is reviewing 804 US passports of People's Temple members which were recovered yesterday.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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About 65 additional US passports were recovered today. An Embassy Officer also located ten file cabinets including medical and financial documents, records of communications with San Francisco, tapes and membership papers of the People's Temple organization.

One People's Temple member in Port of Spain, Trinidad, with the PT supply vessel said his wife, who had been responsible for logging PT members' passports, had made a statistical analysis by age and sex. She had told him three months ago that there were 954 residents of Jonestown, including about 300 under the age of 16. Another clue to the community's size is a solidarity petition dated November 7 (prior to Rep. Ryan's visit) which was signed by more than six hundred PT members. Efforts to resolve the various estimates of the size of the Jonestown population are continuing.

Embassy believes that three more People's Temple members may be arrested by GOG authorities soon. The one already arrested has been charged with five counts of homicide. The usual initial consular visit has been made.

The Legal Attache from Caracas will travel with a consular officer to Jonestown tomorrow to obtain serial numbers of the weapons. GOG has still not responded to our request for six more FBI agents to enter the country, nor has the GOG yet given permission for survivors to leave. Embassy estimates that the first group of survivors will probably not be repatriated before Saturday. Survivors at this point are not complaining about the delay.

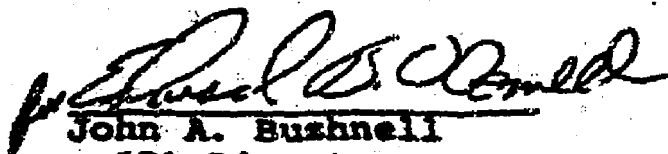
Arrangements have been made for survivors to be accompanied on the flight by five sky marshals from the Department of Justice who will be part of the aircraft crew. Charleston will be the port of entry (not releasable to the public).

The AID doctor today visited the three hospitalized cases and reported that, while two of them might receive better treatment if transferred, this is not imperative. The third patient cannot be moved for several days at least.

FBI Director Webster has issued a statement that, based on fingerprint information, a positive identification had been made of the body of People's Temple founder Jim Jones.

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John A. Bushnell  
ARA Director  
Guyana Working Group



James E. Thyden  
Senior Watch Officer

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Operations Center

(GUYANA WORKING GROUP)

Situation Report No. 16

Situation in Guyana as of 0800 Hours (EST), November 23, 1978

The first C-141 carrying the remains of forty victims of the Jonestown tragedy arrived at Dover Air Force Base at 0600 EST. Thirty-seven bodies are unidentified; of the three others, one is that of the Rev. Jones' adopted son, Jimmy.

Removal of dead from Jonestown to Georgetown began again this morning at 0600 EST. The nine helicopters sorties scheduled for today are expected to bring 162 bodies to Georgetown. The next flight to Dover carrying eighty bodies is scheduled to depart Georgetown at 1000 EST. The Commander of the US Task Force in Guyana has indicated the operation will be completed tomorrow, November 24.

One hundred and sixty seven transfer cases are in Georgetown; 138 more will arrive today. The remainder needed will be returned from Dover and reused.

No further attempts to identify bodies are being made in Guyana. An SCS representative and an FBI disaster squad are in Dover to aid military personnel in the identification process. In inspecting the Jonestown settlement, an Embassy consular officer counted only 60 single beds, an indication that earlier estimates of a thousand or more residents of Jonestown were probably exaggerated.

The Embassy reports that some of the survivors in Georgetown are beginning to agitate for return to the U.S. However, Guyanese authorities apparently will not be prepared to permit any departures until tomorrow, November 24 at the earliest.

It is expected the survivors will probably be released in two groups. The first will be composed of 24 "non-problem" refugees plus some very elderly members of the second group. This second group is made up of Peoples Temple members still under investigation by the GOC.

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\* DOD PA  
Duty Officer  
NCC (LDX)

FBI  
JUSTICE

CONFIDENTIAL

John Bushnell  
John Bushnell  
ARA Director  
Guyana Working Group

Rich Castrodale  
Rich Castrodale  
Senior Watch Officer

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

918

Department of State A/CDC/ER  
Operations Center

REVIEWED BY  
(GUYANA WORKING GROUP)

DATE

Situation Report No. 15

RDS or RDS EXT. DATE

ENDORSE EXISTING REASON(S)

REASON(S)

Situation in Guyana as of 2400 EST November 22, 1978

RELEASE DENIED

PA or POI EXEMPTION

Embassy Georgetown anticipates that the GOG will lift its objections tomorrow to travel of approximately 74 of the known survivors. Larry Layton has been arraigned and three others are being held by the police. We do not know how many of the 74 survivors will choose to leave the country at this time. The USAF should be able to provide transportation within the next few days.

Recovery operations in the Jonestown area encountered aggravating problems, including heavy rainfalls, during daylight hours today. Nevertheless, 40 bodies (not 80 as earlier reported) have been moved to Georgetown where they will be loaded on a C-141 scheduled to arrive at Dover AFB on November 23 at 0700 (EST). The GOG has continued to cooperate fully with U.S. military operations and, at one point loaned the two remaining Guyanese Airways helicopters for transportation to the Jonestown area. The Ambassador spoke twice with Prime Minister Burnham and twice with Minister Green today concerning details of the recovery operation.

Tomorrow (November 23), barring heavy rainfall, the Embassy estimates that all remains will be moved to Georgetown in body bags. Identification of remains is becoming increasingly difficult; visual means are no longer feasible. Identification of over half of the bodies will have to be attempted in the U.S.

In the last 24 hours, no new Jonestown survivors have been discovered. The GOG forces continue to search the Jonestown area for survivors. More U.S. military aircraft will be in the area tomorrow and will be available for search and rescue operations.

The Embassy has taken possession of the passports found at Jonestown and will forward a list to the Department as quickly as possible. In addition, The embassy has cabled the names of 915 People's Temple members provided by the Guyanese immigration authorities.

CONFIDENTIAL

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DDO PA  
ty Officer  
CC (LDX)

CONFIDENTIAL


- 2 -


This information will assist SCA in locating next of kin and, possibly, in determining the number of persons residing at the People's Temple compound. Survivors have provided a map locating a small cemetery in the Jonestown area where several People's Temple members may have been buried prior to November 18. U.S. personnel will attempt to locate the cemetery.

Embassy Georgetown has requested permission to retain a local attorney to assist as necessary in handling the personal effects of the Jonestown dead. ARA and I will discuss this matter tomorrow and will inform Georgetown of their decision.

We have asked the Embassy to obtain additional identifying information on the helicopter spare parts requested by the Guyanese. Embassy Caracas reports that the Venezuelan air force may be willing to provide one Twin Otter to the Guyanese and will follow up on this lead.

Embassy Port of Spain reports that none of the four Temple members who had arrived there returned to the Embassy on November 22. The Embassy passed our request for an FBI visit to a Foreign Office official, who will inform the Foreign Minister of it tomorrow. The Embassy speculates that the Foreign Minister may take the request to the cabinet which does not meet until Friday. The Guyanese Government has not yet responded to our latest request for an FBI visit.

  
Stephen R. Gibson  
Guyana Working Group

  
James Thyden  
Senior Watch Officer

CONFIDENTIAL



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\* DDO PA

Duty Officer

NEIC (LDX)

FBI

JUSTICE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEWED BY  
**CONFIDENTIAL**  
DATE  
REASON(S)  
DECLASSIFIED  
EXEMPTIONS  
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS  
Situation Report No. 14

919

Situation in Guyana as of 1800 Hours (EST), November 22, 1978

A 28-man US graves registration team has been at Jonestown since early this morning preparing the dead for return to the United States. The Government of Guyana is assisting.

Three HH 53's (Jolly Green Giants) arrived at Georgetown from the United States earlier this afternoon. Fresh US crews standing-by at the Guyanese capital promptly began flying the helicopters to Jonestown to load and carry the bodies to Georgetown. Each sortie is capable of carrying 22 bodies. Helicopter operation will not be possible at night. However, the HH 53's had brought the first bodies to Georgetown before nightfall.

The first of the C-141's that will airlift the dead from Georgetown to Dover AFB in Delaware is expected in Georgetown at about 2140 EST today and will arrive back at Dover with about 80 bodies at approximately 0700 tomorrow (November 23). The airlift is now expected to take from 36 to 48 hours.

Survivors of the People's Temple Camp, now 72 in all, including those who happened to be in Georgetown at the time of the calamity, will be returned by military aircraft to the United States at a later date if they so wish.

At least 170 bodies have been identified thus far. Identification work will continue at Dover AFB. Next of kin have been and will continue to be notified as bodies are identified.

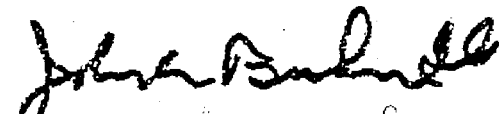
The criminal investigation in Guyana is continuing. Layton has been arrested and charged with murder in connection with the attack on the Ryan group. Also being detained as possible suspects are Timothy and Michael Carter and Michael Prokes. These three either turned themselves in or were found by the Guyanese authorities on their arrival at Port Kaituma. We have no direct information concerning press reports about money or other valuables they may have been carrying at the time.

Ambassador Mann of Guyana called on Acting Secretary Christopher this afternoon to express his condolences to the US Government and people on the death of Congressman Ryan and over 400 American citizens. He promised his government's cooperation in locating survivors and apprehending any perpetrators. Mr. Christopher asked that the Government of Guyana reconsider its decision not to allow any FBI team to enter Guyana. The Ambassador will convey this request to his government. Ambassador Burke and the Legal Attache visiting Georgetown from Caracas will follow up.

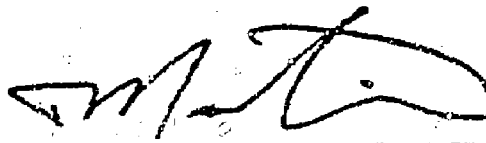
The FBI wishes to send an agent to Port of Spain to interview four People's Temple members who have appeared there. We have asked the GOTT for permission to do so.

Funding questions concerning Guyana's request for two twin Otter aircraft and spare parts for Huey helicopters remain to be resolved. We have asked nearby posts about the possibility of providing the Otters. A US firm could have one in Guyana in from 9 to 14 days on lease. We are examining use of AID contingency funds to lease these planes so that isolated Guyana communities do not become unviable because of damage to one of Guyana's two Otters during Saturday's shooting and need for another in Jones-town operation. DOD has completed a stock search for Huey parts and has found that only two or three of the minor parts are in our military inventory. In conjunction with Bell, we are seeking better identification of the desired parts to verify sources of procurement. However, we have found no source of funding to purchase these parts to make downed Guyanese helicopters operational.

DEA has asked for clearance to send an agent to Guyana to investigate reported drug use among members of the People's Temple. We have asked DEA to identify more precisely the requirement for such a visit given GOG sensitivity to investigative visits.



John A. Bushnell, ARA Director,  
Guyana Working Group



T.G. Martin  
Senior Watch Officer

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

920

CONFIDENTIAL EXT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_

REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Operations Center

(GUYANA WORKING GROUP)

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(tube E-3)

\* DOD PA

Duty Officer

NMCC (LDX)

FBI

JUSTICE

# Situation Report No.13

Situation in Guyana as of 0630 a.m. (EST), November 22, 1978

## Military Operations

The majority (28 men) of the Graves Registration/Body Recovery Unit arrived in Georgetown during the night and 19 are now in Jonestown. The movement of men and material to Jonestown and Matthews Ridge is being accomplished by the three U.S. aircraft currently operational in country (one UH-1H, one OH-58 and one U-21) and Guyanese Defense Force aircraft. Reflecting yet another delay, the three HH-53 heavy helicopters are now due to arrive in Georgetown at 1300 EST. Rested crews will be in place and the aircraft can be put in immediate service.

Four additional Huey helicopters are on the way; the first two are scheduled to arrive in Georgetown at 0920 EST. The second two will be airlifted to Guyana later today.

There are currently 206 U.S. military personnel in country and there will be 300-350 by the end of the day.

The first ninety-six cases for body transfer (boxes suitable for stacking during shipment) will be sent from Richmond at 0900 this morning and will be in Guyana in time for the first bodies to be prepared and ready for shipment by 1630 EST. The bodies will be transferred to Dover AFB Delaware.

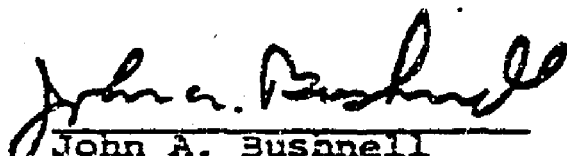
Of the one hundred and seventy-four bodies thus far identified by Guyanese authorities, we have no next of kin information on seventy-three. We are attempting to ascertain next of kin through passport records and inquiries. We are in the process of notifying next of kin in the other cases.

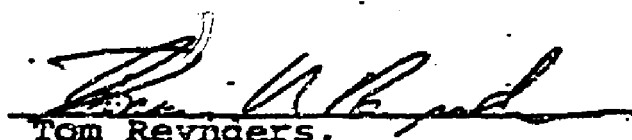
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- 2 -

Embassy Georgetown was unofficially informed last evening that Larry Layton will be arraigned by Guyanese authorities today and charged with murder, attempted murder and related charges. Three other People's Temple members, Timothy and Michael Carter and Michael Prokes, have been taken to the "lock up" in Georgetown and may also be charged. All known survivors from Jonestown are now in Georgetown with the exception of one individual who is in Port Kaituma awaiting transportation.

  
John A. Busanell  
Guyana Working Group

  
Tom Reynders,  
Senior Watch Officer

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/WR CONFIDENTIAL

921

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Operations Center

ROS ☐ or IDS ☐ EXT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ REASON(S) (GUYANA WORKING GROUP)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☐ Situation Report No.12

RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or POI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

Situation in Guyana as of 1230 a.m. (EST), November 22, 1978

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(tube E-3)

\* DDO PA

Duty Officer

NMCC (LDX)

FBI

JUSTICE

Based on information received from the Guyanese authorities, Embassy Georgetown has transmitted the names of 174 of the deceased. The SCA Team has begun notifying the next of kin. Apparently, some elements of the press have received the same list. However, the Department will not be releasing the names to the media.

Very few survivors have been located in the Jonestown area thus far, perhaps no more than 20. Counting these, close to 70 People's Temple members are now in Georgetown. Some of these were not in Jonestown on Saturday. U.S. Military authorities believe they have sufficient facilities and personnel in Georgetown in the event of any influx of survivors.

Larry Layton, the person named as the one who started the shooting, is in Georgetown in custody of the police. To the Embassy's knowledge, he has not been charged, but is obviously being treated as a suspect. The People's Temple members in Georgetown appear to be divided into two groups, one group staying at the Georgetown police headquarters and the other elsewhere in town. Three are still in the hospital. Police officials have informed the Embassy that they prefer to keep all persons connected with the People's Temple organization available in the country for "two or three days".

USAF planes continue to arrive in Georgetown bearing equipment, supplies and support personnel. The U.S. Military Commander there reports that the Guyanese Defense Force representatives have been most cordial and helpful. Because of space limitations at the Georgetown Airport, turnaround time is being held to the minimum. The aircraft carrying the graves identification unit and equipment has been delayed because of mechanical problems and now will not be arriving in Georgetown until 0430 Georgetown time.

*Handwritten:* Jones-Supplies

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

-2-

We have formally requested DOD to provide transportation to the United States for People's Temple survivors who desire to leave Guyana.

AID is continuing to investigate the possibility of assisting the Guyanese Government to replace, on a temporary lease basis, the Twin Otter damaged during the attack on Congressman Ryan's party. The GOG has also requested some spare parts for aircraft in its military inventory. We have asked the Embassy to provide additional identifying information on the parts. DOD may have the items; however, the question of how they will be paid for remains to be resolved. The latest word from AID is that regulations prohibit AID from funding military transportation equipment.

Guyanese Ambassador Mann is scheduled to call on Acting Secretary Christopher on November 22 at 2:30 p.m. We expect that the purpose of the call will be for the Ambassador to express condolences and offer the continuing cooperation of his government. Mr. Christopher may have an opportunity to press for a Guyanese invitation for a visit by an FBI team. The FBI is very anxious to assist the Guyanese Government in its investigation of the People's Temple incident. An FBI team was en route yesterday, but was pulled off the plane at the last moment, at the request of Guyanese Minister Green, who informed the Ambassador that the presence of the FBI team would present a political problem for the government.

The staff director of the House International Relations Committee has informed H that Chairman Zablocki will be sending a letter to the Department containing many questions about the Department's role prior to the events in Guyana. Staffers are now working on the questions, which likely will cover all issues raised in the press and more. A decision on possible hearings will be made after receipt of the Department's response.


In response to a request from the Vice President's office, we have determined that the Vice President did not send a letter of support to People's Temple leader Jones.

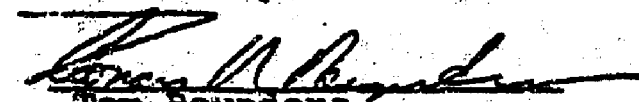
CONFIDENTIAL

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According to Christopher Nascimiento, a Guyanese official now in New York, the quotes in a People's Temple booklet attributed to Vice President Mondale were taken from statements the Vice President supposedly made, possibly during the 1976 campaign in California.

  
Stephen R. Gibson, ARA  
Guyana Working Group

  
Tom Reynders,  
Senior Watch Officer

CONFIDENTIAL

922

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR.

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
Operations Center

WFS/OT KDS/EXT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ENDORSE EXISTING WORKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED/RELEASABLE ☒

RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

November 22, 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Senior Watch Officers

SUBJECT: Working Group SITREPs

Please tighten up the standards for format and appearance of Guyana Working Group SITREPs. They should not have been allowed to go out with Roman numerals as long as they did. The one at 6 p.m. last night should have read "1800 hours (EST)" rather than "0600 pm (est)" as it did. Naturally, you should always review them carefully for content and readability.

I am giving a copy of this to the Working Group and asking that as much as possible they show their SITREPs to you in draft. If they don't, do not hesitate to send back the final copy if it doesn't meet the standards required for distribution to the Secretary and other high-level readers.

WFR

William F. Roep  
Director

✓ Copy to: Guyana Working Group



EVENING READINGHIRC "Investigation" Into Guyana Tragedy

Jack Brady, Staff Director of the HIRC, has informed H that Chairman Zablocki will be sending a letter to the Department containing several questions about the Department's role prior to the tragic events in Guyana. A "task force" of staffers is now working on the questions and they will likely cover all issues which have been raised in the press and more. Brady advises that the Chairman has made no decision concerning hearings. This decision would be made after receipt of our response to the questions.

Note: Brady is quoted in a November 21 Reuters article as saying that the HIRC had not decided whether to hold hearings on the government's handling of the affair and that "the committee is in the process of getting as much information as it can." Brady said that hearings would focus on the State Department's role.

H:JBatwood 11/21/78 x21048

cc: ARA/LA - Mr. Viron Vaky  
CA - Ms. Barbara Watson

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MP  
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Operations Center  
GUYANA WORKING GROUP

ENDORSE EXISTING \_\_\_\_\_  
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☐ Situation Report No. 11  
RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

Situation in Guyana as of 0600 pm (est), November 21, 1978

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\* DOD PA  
Duty Officer  
NMCC (LDX)

FBI  
JUSTICE

The Guyanese cabinet has officially requested the USG to remove all remains from Guyanese territory ASAP. This decision was conveyed to our Ambassador and DCM by PM Burnham. There is also a rumor that the GOG is planning to release a list of 150 victims shortly, and we are expecting delivery of the 800 American passports recovered by the GOG to the Embassy shortly.

US assets on the ground at this time include two helicopters (one Huey, one OH-58), one U-21, two C-130s (scheduled to leave soon), and one C-141 due to depart today at 1600 est. En route are two C-141s, one containing consular personnel and equipment (due tonight) and one with additional equipment and the graves registration team (due 2120 est). Due tomorrow from Puerto Rico are three HH-53 "Jolly Green Giant" helicopters.

The DOD Communications Team has arrived in-country but is not yet established in Jonestown and on the air. Two Consular Officers will also go to Jonestown soon, either tonight or tomorrow morning.

The GOG has requested two replacement aircraft for the Guyana airways corporation; this request is under study by AID. The GOG also wants helicopter spare parts and other related equipment. Since the GOG is not eligible for PMS we are reviewing this request to determine how to provide items needed as a result of this emergency.

AID is doing contingency planning on requirements for temporary lodging (tents), feeding and medical supplies for Jonestown survivors.

We have asked the Embassy to advise us as to additional staffing requirements. The Embassy is reviewing its needs.

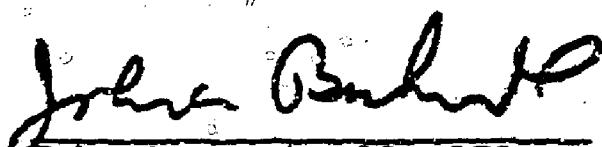
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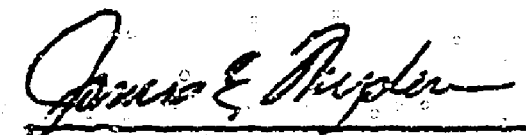
CONFIDENTIAL

-2-

Guyanese Ambassador Laurence E. Mann is returning to Washington tonight. He has requested appointment with the Acting Secretary tomorrow.

Cost estimates for our efforts in Guayana to date are very preliminary, but for airlift alone probably in the neighborhood of \$1.5 million.

  
John A. Bushnell, ARA  
Guyana Working Group

  
James E. Thyden,  
Senior Watch Officer

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

925

DIST

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Operations Center

(GUYANA WORKING GROUP)

Situation Report No. X

Situation in Guyana as of 0715 AM (EST), November 21, 1978

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We are awaiting Embassy views on our suggestion that the victims of the Jonestown tragedy be buried at Jonestown, given the long time of the bodies in open air and the fact that we won't have significant helicopter lift capacity until Wednesday. Ambassador Burke is currently consulting with the Guyanese authorities on this situation. Meanwhile the airlift of helicopters and supplies into Georgetown begins this morning with the arrival of three aircraft carrying support equipment and two unassembled helicopters. Local burial will not significantly reduce the need for U.S. equipment and personnel needed to carry out search and rescue operations in cooperation with Guyanese authorities. Three HH-53 helicopters are scheduled to arrive in Georgetown tomorrow morning as well as four additional light helicopters.

Six FBI agents, Jim Ward (CA) and Fred Shaver (ICA) are scheduled to depart MacDill AFB at 11:55 A.M. today. The agents will join a legal attache from Caracas who arrived yesterday.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

The Embassy is looking into the possibility that the Otter damaged in the ambush at Port Kaituma can be repaired if parts were to be flown in by our Military Task Force.

The Press pool which visited Jonestown yesterday has begun to file detailed stories. The pool was made up of Charles Krause and Frank Johnson of the Washington Post, Mohamed Hamaaludin of Reuters/CANA and a Guyanese photographer.

*John Busnelli*  
John Busnelli, ARA  
Guyana Working Group

T. Reynders,  
Senior Watch Officer

CONFIDENTIAL DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/WE

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

FOR THE DIRECTOR, D. \_\_\_\_\_  
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CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A-100/12

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Operations Center

(GUYANA WORKING GROUP)

Situation Report No. IX

Situation in Guyana as of 1230 A.M. (EST), November 20, 1978

EMBASSY REPORT

Victor Dikeos, DCM Panama, detailed to Georgetown at the beginning of the crisis, has reported on his visit today to Jonestown. On arrival they found 405 bodies: three or four had died of gunshot wounds, the rest from poisoning. Eighty-two children were among the dead. During the course of the day 14 survivors, including four children, returned to Jonestown. Two of the children had minor flesh wounds and were evacuated to Georgetown. The survivors gave an account of the last moments. It was mass suicide.

Almost all the bodies, after some 50 hours outdoors, are in an advanced stage of decomposition. Medical authorities from GOG who were on the scene were very concerned about health hazards. They do not have facilities or the capability, even in Georgetown, for dealing with a problem of this magnitude and are relying on our assistance.

The GOG police investigation has proceeded rapidly. They have identified about half of the bodies and have recovered some 800 to 900 passports which should assist in identification. Examination of the passports (still in hands of GOG police investigators) should also give some clues as to the number of survivors who fled to the jungle and who they may be. The Embassy had previously estimated this at about 1100. Identification of the remaining bodies will be difficult and probably beyond the capability of the Guayanese authorities.

In the conversation between Dikeos and Deputy Assistant Secretary Bushnell, it was agreed that available air transport would be critical tomorrow. In using air transport capacity, first priority would be given to the search for those who may still be alive in the surrounding very heavy jungle. Mr. Dikeos pointed out that the survivors are quite terrified and may be reluctant to leave their hiding places to return to Jonestown. At the same time, the question of identification and transportation of the bodies will become critical by Wednesday.

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FBI

JUSTICE

\* DOD PA

Duty Officer

NYDC (LDX)

At this point the GOG authorities are not issuing death certificates, but the Embassy will urge them to do so. Mr. Dikeos observed that both GOG authorities and the Embassy had heard of a graveyard in Jonestown where the dead might be buried, but no one had seen it. He suggested that perhaps the survivors could locate the graveyard if the decision were made to bury the remains in Guyana.

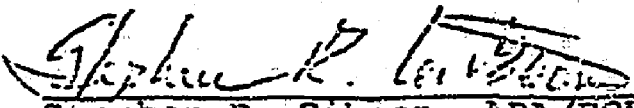
#### OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

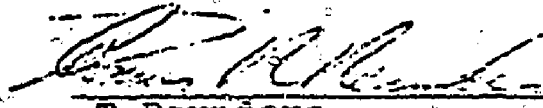
In view of the time elapsed since the death of Americans at Jonestown, difficulties of identifying the remains, the tropical climate and problems in transporting the large number of bodies from the remote site, the Department is instructing the Embassy to seek GOG assistance in local burial in marked graves after identification.

DOD continues with its preparations to dispatch support units, helicopters and a Graves Identification team to Georgetown. At this time, two C-141's with the Graves Identification team are scheduled to depart Fort Bragg at approximately 0800 (EST). Two C-130's carrying supplies and support personnel will depart Howard AFB at 0300 and 0600 (EST) and arrive in Georgetown at 0800 and 1100. The C-141's with the helicopters will depart later. Transportation will also be provided to a team of six FBI Agents (one from Washington, D.C., and five from Miami), Jim Ward from SCA and Fred Shaver from ICA.

The aircraft carrying the bodies of Congressman Ryan and three newsmen is scheduled to arrive at Charlestown, S.C. at 0040 on November 21 and to arrive in San Francisco at 0830 (California time).

At the request of President Carter, Vice President Mondale has expressed condolences to the families of Congressman Ryan and the newsmen killed at Jonestown.

  
Stephen R. Gibson, ARA/ECP  
Guyana Working Group

  
T. Reynders  
Senior Watch Officer

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JUSTICE

\* DOD PA  
Duty Officer  
NMCC (LDX)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Operations Center

(GUYANA WORKING GROUP)

Situation Report No.

Situation in Guyana as of 1830

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RELEASE DATE

November 20, 1978

Reports by Guyanese police to U.S. Embassy Georgetown state 363 bodies of Peoples Temple adherents have been counted so far at Jonestown, including body of Rev. James Jones. Embassy believes some Jonestown residents fled into bush. There may also be additional dead not yet found.

DOD communications team has gone to Jonestown but communications system not yet functioning. Advice from pathologists in U.S. makes it questionable that after 50 hours bodies at Jonestown can be evacuated and local burial may be required.


U.S. military now plans fly in three large helicopters (HH-53), to be refueled in air, plus four smaller helicopters aboard 2 C-141s. USAF has not yet determined suitability of Matthew's Ridge for C-130 use. By Wednesday morning we anticipate having about 200 American military in Guyana to assist in operation.

FBI has ordered six agents to stand by to assist in investigations if requested by GOG.

Bodies of Congressman Ryan and three newsmen will be flown out to U.S. late November 20.

Peoples Temple lawyer Mark Lane and colleague Charles Garry are in Georgetown and gave press conference November 20.

U.S. military does not possess Otter or similar aircraft as requested by GOG but other solution being examined.

  
John A. Bushnell, ARA Director,  
Guyana Working Group

  
J. Thyden,  
Senior Watch Officer

428

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/100/12

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Operations Center

(GUYANA WORKING GROUP)

Situation Report No. VII

Situation in Guyana as of 1130 Hours (EST), November 20, 1978

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The Guyanese Crisis Committee has approved our offer of medical evacuation and grave registration units, including up to 12 helicopters. The National Military Command Center (NMCC) is mobilizing the units. The helicopters are expected to arrive early November 21.

Our DCM to Panama, who is helping at Georgetown, and a consular officer are flying to Jonestown this morning with three press representatives and Guyanese officials and will make an initial assessment of the situation there. They are expected to report their findings this afternoon. Another flight will bring our pathological and poisons experts to Jonestown this afternoon. Ambassador Burke also now advises that the 4-man DOD communications team will fly up to Jonestown today. They are expected to begin transmissions from Jonestown this afternoon.

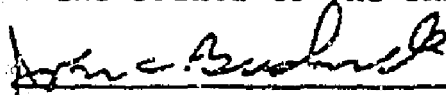
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The Air Force is investigating whether the Matthews Ridge airstrip can take aircraft as large as C-130s so that it can be used as a staging area for operations in Jonestown. The airstrip is about 35 miles away from Jonestown, and its use would considerably ease supply problems and facilitate evacuation activities.

\* DOD PA  
Duty Officer  
NMCC (LDX)

The Guyanese Government has requested the loan of two Otter or similar aircraft. The American Peoples Temple crisis has overtaxed Guyana's domestic air transport system, which is critical for the supply of many isolated Guyanese communities. NMCC has no Otters; but is looking into alternative ways of responding to this request.

Ambassador Burke advises that autopsies have been performed on the bodies of Congressman Ryan and the four others killed during the attack at Port Kaituma and that they are ready for transport back to the United States. SCS is coordinating their movement with the NMCC. Also Ambassador Burke advises that Guyana will probably require that autopsies be done only on a representative sample of the dead at Jonestown before authorizing the return of the bodies to the United States.

  
John Bushnell, ARA Director,  
Guyana Working Group

  
Thomas G. Martin  
Senior Watch Officer

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Operations Center

(GUYANA WORKING GROUP)

Situation Report No. VI

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\* DOD PA  
Duty Officer  
NMCC (LDX)

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in Guyana as of 0700 Hours (EST), November 20, 1978

The Guyanese Government has now given final clearance for the two helicopters that are part of the assistance package it requested and has established a cabinet level Crisis Committee to handle the Peoples Temple calamity. The Committee is headed by Minister of Health, Housing, and Labor Hamilton Green and includes the Ministers of Foreign and Home Affairs. Green is known as a dynamic, capable administrator. Ambassador Burke is working closely with the Committee which is now considering our offer of medical helicopter evacuation and graves registration units, including up to 12 helicopters. An early answer is expected, and the National Military Command Center is preparing to have the units ready to move quickly.

*John A. Bushnell*  
John Bushnell, ARA Director,  
Guyana Working Group

*Rich Castrodale*  
Rich Castrodale,  
Senior Watch Officer

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Operations Center

(GUYANA WORKING GROUP)

Situation Report No. V

Situation in Guyana as of 0500 Hours (EST), November 20, 1978

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Guyanese police and military forces have entered Jonestown and reportedly encountered as many as 400 dead. Further details from Guyanese officials about the dead and information regarding remaining members of the Peoples Temple in Jonestown are not yet available, and darkness and heavy rain have impeded further movement by the government forces, probably until dawn November 20. Press inquiries are relaying rumors that all of the Peoples Temple members are dead. We expect two consular officers and a U.S. communications team to reach Jonestown the morning of November 20. Guidance developed for the press on an if-asked basis is:

"We have received from our Embassy in Georgetown, Guyana, a preliminary report by local police officials on the scene that it appears as if as many as 400 members of the Jonestown Peoples Temple Community may be dead."

The Government of Guyana has not given final clearance for the helicopters that form part of the assistance package requested for the government forces. We have received no explanation for the delayed approval. The National Military Command Center is preparing to provide a helicopter squadron (perhaps 12 helicopters) to be used for emergency medical and evacuation services to survivors in Jonestown should it be required.

State has requested NMCC that a military graves registration team and necessary equipment such as body bags be assembled to deal with the massive problem of body identification and disposition. SCS is coordinating these activities with the intention of

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bringing the bodies of dead Americans back to the US for burial. A second C-141 medevac plane is scheduled to arrive at Georgetown at 9:00 a.m. (EST). Congressman Ryan's body and the remains of the other dead may be brought out on this plane.

Shortly after 9:00 p.m. (EST) the first C-141 landed at Andrews Air Force Base with five wounded from the shooting at Port Kaituma, having left four seriously wounded victims in Puerto Rico for immediate medical attention. The condition of those arriving at Andrews ranged from heavily sedated to stunned, and none spoke to the press. However San Francisco Chronicle correspondent Ron Javers, though himself wounded, filed a lengthy and lurid eyewitness account of the events in Guyana as the plane passed through Puerto Rico. Assistant Secretary Barbara Watson and members of the press greeted the flight. The C-130 from Panama which carried the Embassy augmentation team to Guyana has turned around in Georgetown and is scheduled to arrive in Puerto Rico at 5:56 a.m. local time, with eight of the concerned relatives who had been staying at the Pegasus Hotel in Georgetown.

Our Embassy in Georgetown has provided an update on the status of those composing CODEL Ryan. They are accounted for as follows as of 2:00 a.m. local time November 20:

Cong Ryan, deceased, remains in Georgetown;  
Jackie Speier, wounded, evacuated on C-141;  
Mark Lane, unhurt, in police custody, Georgetown;  
Charles Garry, unhurt, in police custody, Georgetown;  
Richard Dwyer, wounded, at home in Georgetown;  
Don Harris, deceased, remains in Georgetown;  
— Bob Flick, unhurt, departed Guyana in NBC jet;  
Ron Javers, wounded, evacuated in C-141;  
Tim Reiterman, wounded, evacuated on C-141;  
Charles Krause, unhurt in Guyana;  
Gregory Robinson, deceased, remains in Georgetown;  
Steve Sung, wounded, evacuated on C-141;  
Bob Brown, deceased, remains in Georgetown;  
James Cobb, unhurt, evacuated on C-130 to Puerto Rico;  
Beverly Oliver, wounded, evacuated on C-141;  
Anthony Katsaris, wounded, evacuated on C-141;  
Carolyn Boyd, wounded, evacuated on C-141.

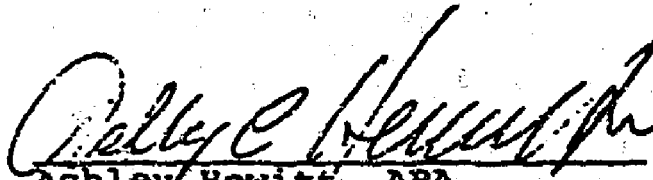
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We have remained in close touch with the FBI and the office of California Governor Jerry Brown out of concern that the tragic events in Guyana might be emulated by Peoples Temple members in California. Thus far no such events have taken place.

The Guyana Working Group is operating continuously and handling inquiries from the press and others, including relatives of Peoples Temple members. The following phone numbers can be used for incoming calls: 632-9380 (1) (2) (3) and 632-6615.

  
Ashley Hewitt, ARA  
Director, Guyana Working  
Group

  
Rich Castrodale,  
Senior Watch Officer

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR  
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Operations Center

(GUYANA WORKING GROUP)

Situation Report No. IV

Situation in Guyana as of 1900 Hours (EST), November 19, 1978

In response to our offer of assistance, the Guyanese have asked for two helicopters (Embassy Georgetown is obtaining specifics). Communications equipment, a small airplane, outboard motor, sleeping bags, etc., are also sought for the police forces now on their way to Jonestown. The National Military Command Center is processing these requests, and supplies are expected to begin moving to Georgetown shortly.

At Ambassador Burke's request, a second C-141 medevac flight is now scheduled to arrive in Georgetown shortly after daylight on November 20. The first medevac flight is scheduled to land at Andrews Air Force base at 8:50 p.m. this evening and Assistant Secretary Watson and others will meet the plane. Embassy Georgetown reports that the five bodies from the attack November 18 at Port Kaituma have now been returned to Georgetown. The injured woman in the aircraft that escaped from the attack at Port Kaituma has now been identified. She is Monica Bagby whom we presume is one of the Jonestown residents who chose to leave with Congressman Ryan. She is reported to be in serious condition in the Georgetown Public Hospital and under police guard.

The Guyanese police report that Sharon Amos, a Peoples Temple leader resident in Georgetown, killed her three children and committed suicide on November 18. The father of one of the children travelled to Georgetown with Congressman Ryan and is still in Guyana. The police also report that they have arrested in Georgetown an American Peoples Temple member in connection with the incident at Port Kaituma.

Embassy Georgetown has had no report of the Guyanese police and military expedition which left for Jonestown at 1300 Washington time, probably owing to lack of adequate communications equipment available to the expedition.

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In two well-attended press briefings, Deputy Department spokesman Tom Reston provided virtually all available facts except the names of the wounded being evacuated in the C-141. ~~In general, the press is appreciative of the information received, but is questioning sharply how much warning we gave Congressman Ryan before he left for Georgetown and whether the Department encouraged or discouraged his visit.~~ Now that the wounded have been evacuated from Guyana, the press is also beginning to focus on the Peoples Temple, and is pushing for information about the Guyanese police and military on their way to Jonestown and about what is going on there.

Brandon Grove, ARA  
Director, Guyana Working Group

Tom Reynders,  
Senior Watch Officer

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Operations Center

(GUYANA WORKING GROUP)

Situation Report No. III

Situation in Guyana as of 1300 Hours (EST), November 19, 1978

In addition to the three confirmed dead named in SITREP II, the Government of Guyana has provided us with two names from the party attacked at the airstrip near the Peoples Temple on November 18: Gregory Robinson, San Francisco Examiner, and Patricia Parks, whom we presume was one of the Jonestown residents who elected to leave with Congressman Ryan. This makes a total of five known dead. Arrangements are being made by the Guyanese to perform autopsies, required under Guyanese law when a crime is involved, as soon as possible. An American medical pathologist, who accompanied a U.S. C-141 medivac plane to Georgetown, stayed behind to help when the C-141 left earlier today with the wounded.

The medical evacuation aircraft is airborne with nine wounded. The seriously wounded are: Jackie Speier, Legislative Counsel to Congressman Ryan and S. Song of NBC T.V. Other wounded are Mrs. Beverly Oliver, a concerned relative; Mrs. Cathy Boyd, a concerned relative, and Anthony Katsaris, a concerned relative. We do not have as yet the names of the other wounded. Richard Dwyer, our Deputy Chief of Mission in Georgetown, was also wounded slightly, but is remaining at Port Kaituma. The White House is authorizing a second medivac flight, should one prove necessary.

The National Military Command Center is sending a C-130 aircraft from Panama to bring six additional American Foreign Service consular, administrative, and communications personnel, as well as our DCM from Panama, from our Embassies at Panama City and Caracas. Another consular officer is flying to Georgetown from Trinidad. The C-130 will also bring a U.S. four-man military communications team to Guyana.

Our Ambassador to Guyana, John Burke, has told Prime Minister Burnham of Guyana that the United States is prepared to provide any necessary or useful assistance to Guyana to control the situation in the Peoples Temple area and prevent the loss of life. Prime Minister Burnham expressed his appreciation and will look into what assistance is needed or will be helpful.

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Guyanese military forces commenced about 1300 Washington time to advance toward Jonestown. They are proceeding cautiously because of reports of armed Peoples Temple members in the area.

  
Brandon Grove, ARA  
Director, Guyana Working Group

  
James E. Thyden,  
Senior Watch Officer

Distribution:

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Tom Lambert DOD PA Duty Officer NMCC (LDX)	

Attachment: SITREP I  
SITREP II

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STREP II

6:15 a.m. November 19

Ambassador Burke informed Task Force that an Embassy officer who accompanied the Guyanese authorities into Port Kaituma has confirmed the deaths of four members of CODEL as follows: Congressman Ryan, Mr. Bob Brown NBC, Don Harris NBC-T and another individual, an unidentified photographer.

The Embassy reported that six persons were injured including our DCM who was slightly wounded. Other injured members were Jackie Speiers, S. Song NBC-TV, Antony Katsaris plus two unidentified. No information was received about the extent of the injuries to the wounded individuals. The Embassy still have not been able to confirm the report of the mass suicides. However, the Ambassador was assured by the Guyanese authorities that they would be getting to Jonestown as quickly as possible to determine the situation there. Next-of-kin of all three identified as dead have been notified.

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A.M. November 19

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At approximately 6:30 p.m. EST, November 18, Embassy Georgetown reported that CODEL Ryan had apparently been attacked while returning from the Peoples Temple Agricultural Community in the remote north west interior of Guyana. Congressman Leo Ryan (D-California) had traveled to Guyana to investigate allegations by relatives that some members of the Peoples Temple Community were being held against their will. Ryan was accompanied by a number of journalists including a TV camera crew from NBC, San Francisco. He was also accompanied by the Deputy Chief of Mission at our Embassy in Georgetown, and by Mark Lane and another attorney who are counsel for the Peoples Temple. The group traveled to Port Kaituma, which is the nearest airstrip to the Peoples Temple Community, by chartered aircraft the afternoon of November 17. They apparently returned to the airstrip the afternoon of November 18, after having spent the night at the Community, accompanied by some six to ten members of the Peoples Temple who wished to defect. The party was in the act of boarding two chartered aircraft which had been obtained for the trip back to Georgetown when one of the supposed defectors in the smaller of the two aircraft produced a gun and began to shoot at other defectors. This aircraft quickly emptied except for a young woman who was seriously wounded.

At the same time a flatbed trailer pulled by a tractor appeared on the airstrip. A number of people, presumed to be Peoples Temple members, in the trailer opened fire on Congressman Ryan and his immediate party who were in the process of boarding the second aircraft. The gunfire also disabled this aircraft so that it could not take off. The first aircraft took off with its own crew, the wounded woman, and the aircrew of the second aircraft, who were able to scramble aboard at the last minute. Early reports on events and casualties were unclear and based entirely on the account of the incident given by the two aircrews when they returned to Georgetown.

The Government of Guyana (GOG) reacted swiftly under the personal direction of the Prime Minister. Unfortunately, the incident at Port Kaituma took place at sundown. Hence, it was impossible for Guyanese reaction forces to go there directly because the airstrip there is unlighted. The force has established itself at an airstrip called Mathews Ridge

approximately 30 miles from Port Kaituma with the intention of moving into the area at dawn. Our Ambassador at Georgetown has been in constant touch with the Prime Minister and the Security forces.

A crisis management team was immediately formed under the direction of Deputy Assistant Secretary Grove and Caribbean Affairs Director Hewitt. The White House situation room, and the National Military Command Center (NMCC) were immediately informed as were Deputy Secretary, the NSC and the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations. The NMCC agreed to provide a C-141 medical evacuation aircraft with full medical compliment. In addition our embassy requested a medical pathologist be on board. The aircraft left Charleston, S.C. at 3 a.m. EST and scheduled to arrive at Georgetown at approximately 8 a.m. EST.

The extent of the casualties is unknown as of 6 a.m. EST but there are indications that Congressman Ryan and at least the NBC camera team may have been killed. In addition, there are alarming indications that members of the Peoples Temple in Guyana are engaging in mass suicide. The Guyanese police report that a woman who ran the Peoples Temple office in Georgetown has murdered her three children and taken her own life. Another Peoples Temple member, who says he escaped from the Temple and walked 20 miles to Mathews Ridge, reported that members of the Temple were taking their own lives, some 200 having done so when he escaped. There are approximately 1100 US citizens resident at the Temple Community.

The possibility exists that Peoples Temple members, numbering some 3,000 in California, may also begin to take their own lives, this course of action having been discussed by them in the past should they believe their sect to be threatened. The Task Force informed the FBI Operations Center of this possibility at 2:23 a.m. EST (Agent Rasher) and suggested that the relevant law enforcement agencies be informed, especially the police forces in San Francisco and Los Angeles where the Peoples Temple membership is concentrated. In addition, the Department Operations Center informed the San Francisco police directly and requested that they pass on the information to the Attorney General of the State of California.

Our Ambassador has made clear to Prime Minister Burnham that our concerns are (1) that the GOG make every effort to get into Port Kaituma to furnish aid, assistance,

and protection to Americans who may still be there; (2) that as soon as possible the bodies of the dead should be brought to Georgetown; and (3) that the perpetrators of this outrage be brought to justice as soon as possible.

The Crisis Task Force and the Embassy at Georgetown have been deluged with media inquiries throughout the night. We understand that one network has chartered a Learjet to take a camera and reporting crew into Georgetown in the morning. Others will most certainly follow. Our Embassy will clearly need additional Administrative and Counselor support, especially if mass suicides of U.S. citizens are taking place, and we are developing contingency plans to provide it.

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UNCORRECTED TRANSCRIPT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TRANSCRIPT OF SPECIAL NEWS BRIEFING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1978

10:00 A.M.

(ON THE RECORD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

MR. RESTON: All right, ladies and gentlemen.

First of all, let me apologize for being late. I have a statement to be read here, part of which has been handed out to you but part of which has not, and I would like to head through it.

The Department of State is shocked and deeply sorrowed by yesterday's tragic events at Port Kaituma, Guyana, which resulted in the deaths of Congressman Leo Ryan of the State of California and several others in his party, including members of a National Broadcasting Company news team and a photographer for the San Francisco Examiner.

Our Ambassador to Guyana, Mr. John Burke, has been in direct and continuous contact with Prime Minister Burnham of Guyana and other officials of the Guyanese Government who are sincerely shocked and are taking all possible steps to apprehend the perpetrators of this crime.

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Congressman Ryan died trying to assist several Americans who apparently wanted to leave the religious community in Guyana.

Perhaps no lengthy eulogy is necessary other than to emphasize that Congressman Ryan died doing what he believed was the most important thing a Congressman or, indeed, any Government official could do -- that is, trying to help our citizens.

We also express our deepest condolences to the families of the journalists from the National Broadcasting Company and from the San Francisco Examiner who died while pursuing their profession in the highest traditions of American journalism.

The United States Government will continue to monitor this situation around the clock in order to provide all possible assistance to the Americans involved and to promptly respond to any requests for support from the Guyanese Government.

Now, I have a bit of a factual report for you here, and then I'd be happy to take any questions which you may have which are not covered by the various statements I will be making.

MS. SCHUKER: She is a legislative assistant to Congressman Ryan.

A I understand that she was on Congressman Ryan's staff.

And Mr. Antony Katsaris.

We have reports of two other unidentified victims who were injured.

Q Wait a minute; that's five.

Q Just Dwyer.

Q Including Dwyer. I'm sorry. Yes.

A No information has been received thus far about the extent of the injury of some of these wounded individuals. The Embassy still has not been able to confirm the reports which have been circulating that there may have been mass suicides. However, our Ambassador was assured by the Guyanese authorities that their forces would be getting to Jonestown, which is the location of the camp, as quickly as possible in order to determine what the situation on the ground is there.

We have been identifying next of kin.

I think the events transpired in the following manner, as best we have been able to piece it together during the early evening and late night and early morning

Ambassador Burke informed a State Department Task Force that an Embassy Officer who accompanied the Guyanese authorities into Port Kaituma has confirmed the deaths of five members of the party traveling with Congressman Ruan: Congressman Ryan, Mr. Robert Brown of the National Broadcasting Company, Mr. Donald Harris of the National Broadcasting Company, Mr. Gregory Robinson -- a photographer for the San Francisco Examiner. There has also been another death, a death of an American female -- who I am not in a position to identify for you at the moment.

The Embassy in Georgetown has reported that six persons were injured, including our Deputy Chief of Mission -- Mr. Richard Dwyer -- who was slightly wounded.

Q Slightly, you say?

A Slightly injured.

It is my understanding Mr. Dwyer is ambulatory.

Other injured members traveling with Congressman Ruan are Jackie Speiers, Mr. Steven Sung of the National Broadcasting Company.

Q Who is Jackie Speiers?

A I'm sorry; I do not have an identification for Jackie Speiers. I will try to get that for you.



hours:

At approximately 6:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, on November 18th, Embassy Georgetown reported in a flash cable to the Department of State that a delegation accompanying Congressman Ryan had apparently been attacked and struck by gunfire while returning from the Peoples Temple Agricultural Community in the remote northwest interior of Guyana in South America.

Let me show you on the map where these places are.

(Map.)

The capital is Georgetown, located on the coast here.

Approximately here is Port Kaituma, which is the nearest airstrip to Jonestown -- which is the location of the camp.

Congressman Leo Ryan, who is a Democrat of California, had traveled to Guyana to investigate allegations by relatives that some members of the Peoples Temple Community were being held against their will. Ryan was accompanied by a number of journalists -- including a television camera crew from the National Broadcasting

Company based out of San Francisco, as well as other journalists. He was also accompanied by the Deputy Chief of Mission of our Embassy in Georgetown -- Mr. Richard Dwyer -- and he was accompanied by Mr. Lane, Esquire, and another attorney, who are counsel for the Peoples Temple.

The group traveled to Port Kaituma, which is the nearest airstrip to the Peoples Temple Community. It is about 145 miles northwest of Georgetown. The group traveled by chartered aircraft on the afternoon of November 17th. They spent the night at Jonestown -- the night of November 17th to the 18th. They returned to the airstrip at Kaituma on the afternoon of November 18th. They were accompanied by some six to ten members of the Peoples Temple Community who apparently wished to leave the Community. The party was in the act of boarding two chartered aircraft which had been obtained for the trip back to Georgetown when one of the supposed members of the Community who wished to leave produced a gun and began to shoot at others who were leaving. This was in the smaller of two aircraft on the field at that time.

This aircraft I am speaking of quickly emptied,

except for a young woman who was seriously wounded.

At about the same time, a flatbed trailer pulled by a tractor appeared on the airstrip. A number of people in the trailer opened fire on Congressman Ryan and his immediate party, who were in the process of boarding the second aircraft. The gunfire also disabled this aircraft so that it could not take off.

The first aircraft took off with its own crew, the young woman who had been wounded, and the aircrew of the second aircraft; and they scrambled aboard at the last minute.

Early reports on these events were unclear and based entirely on the account of the incident which was given by the two aircrews when they returned to Georgetown.

The Government of Guyana reacted swiftly under the personal direction of its Prime Minister. Unfortunately, the incident at Port Kaituma took place at sundown. Hence, it was impossible for the Guyanese reaction forces to go there directly because the airstrip at Port Kaituma is unlighted. There are no night landing lights.

The Guyanese forces proceeded to establish themselves at an airstrip called Mathews Ridge, which is about 30 miles from Port Kaituma (indicating on map), where the incident took place. Their intention was to move into the area at first light. Our Ambassador in Georgetown has been in constant and continuing touch with the Prime Minister and with various organs of his government, including the security forces.

A crisis management team was immediately formed here in the Department of State under the direction of Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs -- Mr. Brandon Grove -- and the Director of the Office for Caribbean Affairs -- Mr. Ashley Hewitt. The White House Situation Room and the National Military Command Center were immediately informed, as was the Deputy Secretary of State -- Mr. Warren Christopher -- the National Security Council, and the Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations -- Mr. Douglas Bennet. The National Military Command Center agreed to provide a C-141 medical evacuation aircraft with full medical complement. In addition to the full medical complement, our Embassy had requested a medical pathologist to be

on board, and there was one on board. The aircraft originally left McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey and stopped off in Charleston, South Carolina, leaving there at 3:00 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, and arrived about 8:00 o'clock in the morning at Georgetown -- and that's Eastern Standard Time.

As of 6:00 o'clock this morning, Eastern Standard Time, there are sketchy reports of casualties; but I have previously confirmed for you that Congressman Ryan is reported -- and that report, unfortunately, is confirmed -- that he has been killed -- along with the other people whose names I mentioned, in addition to the one additional American female national.

In addition, I want to report that there are reports -- as yet unconfirmed -- that members of the Peoples Temple Community in Guyana are perhaps engaging in mass suicides. The Guyanese police in Georgetown report that a woman who ran the Peoples Temple office there has killed her three children and taken her own life. Another Peoples Temple member, who says he escaped from the Community and walked 20 miles to Mathews Ridge, reported that some 200 members of that Community had already taken their lives when he was leaving.

I want to emphasize to you that we have not confirmed these reports.

There are approximately 1100 United States citizens resident at the Temple Community -- the Peoples Temple Community. In addition, the possibility exists that Peoples Temple members here in the United States who number some 3,000 -- mostly resident in the State of California -- may also begin to take their own lives.

The State Department Task Force has been in touch with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the police departments of the Cities of San Francisco and Los Angeles, California -- this was at about 2:30 this morning, Eastern Standard Time -- to inform them of this possibility.

Q Tom, did the State Department inform the police of this responsibility?

A Yes.

Q Why would the State Department know more about this than the police in California, who presumably have greater contact with them?

A Well, I think that the reason is that probably we have had greater contact with the members of the

Temple in Guyana as opposed to California.

Let me just finish up here and then I'll take any questions you may have.

Our Ambassador -- Mr. John Burke -- has made clear to Prime Minister Burnham of Guyana are the following -- and I may say that we have every indication that the Government of Guyana is cooperating splendidly.

- We want to make sure that every effort is made to get into Port Kaituma to furnish aid, assistance, and protection to Americans who may still be there.

- Second, we want to see that the injured are brought out to Georgetown as soon as possible.

- And, third, of course: the perpetrators of this crime and this outrage be brought to justice as soon as possible.

Let me say, finally, that this has been a very sad situation. It has created enormous and understandable humanitarian interest. And in order to deal with the situation as humanely and as efficiently as possible, additional personnel from the Department of State are being airlifted into Georgetown to help deal with the situation. They are coming from Panama, from Venezuela, and from Trinidad.

Do you have questions?

Q Tom, do we have --

Q I'd like to ask you if --

Q Do we have a treaty with Guyana?

A I'll take that question.

Q Tom, could you clear up one thing? You said there were five dead. Can you say that the fifth dead is not one of the people you're listing as wounded -- just so that we don't go out with a report saying somebody's who wounded is in fact dead?

A Yea.

Q The person -- the fifth dead person -- is not one of those you're listing as wounded --

A That is correct.

Q -- not the woman in the plane and not Jackie Speiers.

A That is correct.

Q Tom, do I understand you to say that nothing is being done by our Government in a way to try to prevent any further mass suicides by the members of this group?

A No; that is incorrect to state that.



First of all, we have informed the authorities in San Francisco and in Los Angeles about this possibility; and we hope that the authorities in San Francisco and Los Angeles will take steps which will help prevent such an occurrence.

Second of all, we are making every effort to assist the Guyanese forces, who are at this time on their way to Jonestown, to assess the situation in order -- hopefully -- to prevent such an occurrence.

Q Tom --

A Yes.

Q -- do you have anything further on the whereabouts of Mark Lane or is it being assumed that he was one of those led into the bush?

A We have no information about the present physical situation or status of Mr. Lane. What we are really engaged in here -- here in Washington -- and the burden is falling primarily on the Guyanese authorities, the Guyanese police and the Guyanese security forces -- is to get into the area where the incident took place at Port Kaituma and also to get into the area at Jonestown where the Community is resident. And I gather it takes

about 20 minutes over a dirt road to get from the airport at Port Kaituma to the Jonestown Community.

To establish just exactly what the facts are -- what happened, who survived, who is in need of medical attention, where they are -- we just don't have enough reporting at this time. It is my understanding that Guyanese forces in company strength -- which I gather is about 150 personnel -- are on the way there now.

Q Tom, according to --

Q What is ~~is~~ state of your information here? As near as I can tell, you've had no direct contact with this group since the smaller aircraft got out and yet you're able to confirm deaths and so forth. What has been the contact with that situation overnight, if any?

A Well, as I said before, the airstrip at Port Kaituma is an unlighted airstrip. It was impossible to get into the airstrip during the night. Dawn came about 5:00 a.m. this morning, and at that point the beginnings of the Guyanese forces were able to get in there; and so our reports come from the Guyanese authorities, but we have not had --

Q Tom, is that strip --

A Excuse me, John -- if I could finish.

Q Yes.

A We have not had a full assessment from the Guyanese authorities nor from our own personnel.

Q Just --

A Yes, John.

Q -- to follow that up. you don't have a report that two Guyanese helicopters were sent there during the night and that there were --

A That is not my information.

Q So where does the confirmation come from, Tom?

A The confirmation comes from Guyanese authorities who are beginning to get into the area.

Q But according to your count, Tom, you give us five members of the delegation have died, six persons were injured. According to your count, how many are unaccounted for?

A I have an unofficial passenger list here of those who went in on the aircraft with Congressman Ryan: the Congressman, a Miss Jackie Speier, Mark Lane,

Charles Garry -- who is also an attorney, I gather, an attorney for the Peoples Temple -- Mr. Richard Dwyer, who I have previously mentioned is the Deputy Chief of Mission of our Embassy; Mr. Don Harris; Mr. Bob Flick of NBC-TV in San Francisco; Mr. Ron Javers of the San Francisco Chronicle; Mr. Tim Reiterman of the San Francisco Examiner; Mr. Charles Krouse of The Washington Post; Mr. Gregory Robinson, a photographer for the San Francisco Examiner; Mr. Steven Sung of NBC-TV; and Mr. Robert Brown, also obviously of NBC.

Also there were present a representative of the Ministry of Information of the Guyanese Government-- I do not have a name for you -- plus four, approximately four, people identified as relatives of members of the Peoples Temple Community. So the ones whose names I have not mentioned are still unaccounted for.

Q Tom --

Q How about all of these --

[CONT'D ON pg. B-1.]

Q Tom, I wonder if I could pursue with you a question of what kind of advice was given to Congressman Ryan and his group before they left. Based on an answer that you have already given, you clearly had some experience with this commune, knew of them to be of a somewhat violent bent. Had, in fact, Congressman Ryan spoken to anyone here? Had you given him any advice with regard to going or not going?

A I believe the Congressman did receive a briefing prior to his trip to Guyana. He left here on the 14th of November, by the way. I do not -- and I wish to state this -- I do not have a characterization to offer you on the characteristics of the Peoples Temple.

Q Did the embassy in Guyana discourage --

Q What do you mean, you don't have a characterization? Here is a group about which you know enough that you can call up the FBI and the police officials in California to tell them that these people have threatened mass suicide if anyone tries to move against them, but you don't have any characterization of them?

A I think what we are most concerned with here, Ted, is the specific factual situation of what

happened during the shooting incident at Port Kaituma.

I am not going to characterize thousands of members of a particular community. I will characterize the perpetrators of the crimes which apparently were committed there. But I will not characterize the entire sect or organization and every single member of it.

Q Tom, this characterization, the comment that you have in here about threatening mass suicide, I think what Ted is asking is, is that information that has come to you since the incident, or is it that since the incident you pulled that information out of a file?

A It is my understanding that there had been discussion of such a possibility prior to this incident taking place early yesterday afternoon by members of the community.

Q Tom, you seem to be drawing a line between the perpetrators and the Peoples Temple. Do you have any reason to believe that the individuals -- and also to the statement that says apparently members of the Peoples Temple -- do you have any reason to believe that the perpetrators may have been someone other than members of that sect?

A What I have reason to believe is that the investigation is proceeding, that the Guyanese authorities are entering the area, that what we need to do most of all now is to find out what actually happened, and to protect and safeguard human lives.

Q Tom, do you know how many of the 1,100 people are children?

A I do not know. I will take that question.

Q Tom, can you run down the embassy --

Q Tom, I don't understand the list. Can we just nail down the list? The list is the names of the people who went in?

A The list I have just read to you is the unofficial passenger list of the chartered aircraft which went from Georgetown, Guyana, to the airstrip at Port Kaituma went on to Jonestown, Guyana, overnighted there, and came back to the airport at Port Kaituma, and were prepared to go back to Georgetown when the incident occurred.

Q Do you have the names of the members -- of the relatives?

A I have -- I am not in a position to identify them for you.

Q One more question. Do you have the name of the fifth person you believe is dead and you are withholding it because you have not notified relatives, or what?

A That is precisely correct.

Q Tom, can you account for us the role of the embassy in Georgetown from the time Ryan arrived? My understanding, and I want to be corrected on this if it is not correct, is that they strongly tried to discourage Ryan from making this trip.

A I don't have that precise a characterization for you. I know that Congressman Ryan received briefings here at the Department before he left the United States on November 14th. I know that when Congressman Ryan and his delegation arrived in Guyana, the embassy was supporting logistically his mission down there. I know that the Deputy Chief of Mission, who is the number two person in our embassy, accompanied Congressman Ryan and his party to Jonestown. But I do not have a characterization such as you describe.

Q Just to round this out a bit, do you know what kind of planes these were?



A It is my understanding that one of the planes was a Cessna. That is the smaller of the aircraft. I do not have the type or model or make of the larger aircraft, which I gather could seat rather more people than the Cessna could.

Q What is the distance from Port Kaituma to Georgetown, Tom, do you know?

A I don't know what the distance is. I think I previously said that it takes twenty minutes by jeep over a dirt road, which was made by the members of the Peoples Temple.

Now I want to say that this is in an area which is often subject to heavy rainfalls, and I do not know what the weather in Port Kaituma or in Jonestown is today, and therefore I cannot tell you how long it might take to travel that dirt road.

Q Tom, to make sure I have got one thing straight. You were saying that you are not prepared to say whether the State Department encouraged or discouraged the Congressman from making the trip in the first place in the briefing that he was given before he left here.

A That is precisely correct.



Q Tom, I just want to make sure I follow this thing correctly. You say that of the injured people, one was aboard the aircraft that left, a young woman.

A Yes, that is correct.

Q In other words, it doesn't say here, but I assume then that all of the other people who were injured spent the night out in this area in some way, and their status was determined in the morning when the first Guyanese forces arrived on the scene?

A You assume correctly, except that I want to add the caveat that we really do not have full reports yet, so I am not sure --

Q According to the best information you have now.

A That is correct.

Q Tom, is the total number eighteen? That is what I get from your listing who went in.

A I haven't counted them up here. The total number who might have been at the airport would include the total number who went in on the chartered aircraft, plus the six to ten who apparently wished to leave the community and exit from the area to go to Georgetown.

Q Tom, this question is not asked in an accusatory fashion at all, but I really don't understand why you cannot say whether Congressman Ryan and his party were encouraged or discouraged from making the trip. It seems to me that you had information available that would cause you to discourage him from making the trip. Did the Department not do so?

A I am not in a position to get into the content of our briefing of the Congressman.

Q Can you tell us whether or not there have been previous incidents involving Americans and the Peoples Temple in Port --

A In Jonestown?

Q In Guyana or wherever?

A Are you speaking of incidents of violence?

Q Incidents of any kind that would give you a background and an understanding of the Peoples Temple.

A I think I have indicated that the purpose which Congressman Ryan gave in going down to Guyana was that there had been reports by some relatives of the people who were resident at the Jonestown camp --

Q They were reports to the Congressman, were they not?

A The Congressman had received reports, apparently, from relatives of American citizens resident at Jonestown, Guyana, that they were being held there against their will. Now, that is a tort of a sort, and I think the Congressman was down there to investigate those allegations.

Q Had the State Department been aware of such allegations prior to yesterday's incidents?

A Yes. Allegations of being held there against their will.

Q You had gotten complaints directly from the parents, in other words?

A I believe so. If we had not had them directly from the parents -- I believe so. I think I can say that is correct.

Q Were these taken up, Tom, with the Government of Guyana, prior to this incident?

A We have discussed with the Government of Guyana the situation of some of these Americans in Jonestown.

Q Tom, has the Government of Guyana asked for your help in deporting this community?

A Not that I am aware of.

Q What does your previous answer mean, Tom, that you had discussed it with the Government of Guyana. It now seems as though we are doing nothing but throwing heaping praise on the Government of Guyana for their extraordinary cooperation in the past 24 hours.

A That is exactly what I am trying to do.

Q And what I would like to know is what kind of cooperation you received in the period prior to those 24 hours, and whether indeed the United States had asked for and received assistance in trying to find out whether American citizens were being held against their will by other American citizens?

A I am not sure that we have asked questions along those lines. We have discussed certain court proceedings in Guyana. For instance, as an example, child custody cases which were under the jurisdiction of the Guyanese courts. We have discussed judicial procedures in such cases with the Government of Guyana.

But, really, if the people resident at Jonestown were breaking no Guyanese law, that really is a matter for the Government of Guyana to decide.

Q Tom, can you tell us roughly how far back

it was before the State Department became aware of complaints involving this community, and also whether any representatives, consular officials or other representatives of our embassy in Georgetown had visited the community at any point?

A I cannot answer your first question because I do not know, but I can answer your second question, and the answer is that consular officials of the American Embassy in Guyana periodically had visited American citizens resident at Jonestown for normal consular types of purposes, such as, registration of births and general health inspections, the normal kinds of things that consular officers would do for American citizens resident abroad any place in the world.

Q What kind of health inspections are you — talking about, Tom?

Q In other words, in no cases in connection with these complaints or there were no reports of somebody out there saying, "Help, I am being held against my will", or something like this?

A I am not aware of any.

Q What do you mean by health inspection, Tom? What is a health inspection that you normally carry out?

A Maybe I should retract that. Maybe not.  
I retract the health inspections.

Q What do you mean by that?

A Well, I was trying to figure out examples of normal consular services, and I was incorrect. But I am correct as a normal consular service being the registration of birth.

Q Do you have anything on the kinds of weapons these people were attacked with? Were they hand guns, automatic, semi-automatic?

A I do not.

Q Tom, the C-141 medical evac plane, is it going to be coming back to the States carrying the wounded, and, if so, where is it going to be and when?

A That is unclear at this point. A decision will be made at the point of departure based on a number of factors.

First of all, the condition of the wounded on board the aircraft. In other words, how soon they need to reach medical attention in a hospital. Second of all, on the availability of jet fuel at Georgetown.

Those decisions have not been reached. I can



tell you that the options include going to Howard Air Force Base in Panama or coming directly back here to Andrews Air Force Base in suburban Maryland.

Q Do you know when you will have updated information?

A I wanted to ask you all about that? Would it be useful to you to have another briefing at four o'clock this afternoon should we have further reports from the Guyanese authorities at that time?

Q Yes. You will have further reports.

A Why don't we say, then, four o'clock this afternoon, if that is a mutually agreeable time.

Let me run through some other notes I have here to see whether there is anything else I can provide to you.

Q Tom, can you just clarify one thing on the C-141? Were there only med evac people on that, or were there also some State Department consular or any military people aboard that plane?

A I am aware of no State Department people who were on board that plane. It is with a medical complement; i.e., medical personnel along with a pathologist,

which was requested specifically by our embassy in Georgetown at the request of the Guyanese Authorities.

Q Did they take any security?

A And I am not aware of any security which they may have taken on the plane.

Q So no American military personnel have been assigned?

A I believe this is an Air Force plane, and I would assume that it is being flown by the Air Force, and therefore there are military personnel on board. I will take the question as to whether any security personnel of the U.S. armed forces are on that plane. I am not aware of any.

Q Did I understand you correctly, if the C-141 takes off, medical needs and gas are such that it can get out, get farther away, will either go to Panama or here? There are no other -- ?

A I don't want to foreclose any option, but the contingency planning earlier this morning was that depending on the availability of jet fuel at Georgetown, and depending on the condition of the victims of this incident, that they would either go to Howard Air Force

Base in Panama or to Andrews Air Force Base here.

Q Is the preference to bring them here, Tom?

Is that the first?

A That is a preference, but that is going to be totally subject to what the medical officers and logistical officers find in Georgetown.

Q When will you know that, because I think that would be a decision that we would like to know as early as possible?

A Yes, sir, I understand your interest in the matter. I do not know when we will know that. I think we will only know that shortly prior to the take-off of the aircraft, but we would be glad to post an estimated time of arrival and place of arrival, obviously of that C-141 medical evacuation.

Q Can you tell us how soon we will know whether there will be that four o'clock briefing.

A There will be the four o'clock briefing. We know now.

Can you hold on a moment? I have a further statement to make, not regarding Guyana. Can we see whether we can get the people back in the briefing room

who have left? This is a statement on another matter, but which we feel is important to make.

Ladies and gentlemen, I have a statement to make. Unfortunately, I am in a position of not being able to be responsive to any follow-up questions you may have on this statement, but I wish to make a statement for the record.

It is a statement on behalf of the Secretary of State, Mr. Cyrus Vance.

As President Carter has indicated, the United States does not intend to interfere in the internal affairs of any other country, and reports to the contrary are totally without foundation.

We expect other countries to conduct themselves in similar fashion, and we note that the Soviet Union has said yesterday that it will not interfere in the affairs of Iran and will respect its territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence.

As we have said, we firmly support the Shah in his efforts to restore domestic tranquility in Iran, and we have confidence that Iran can solve its own problems. We intend to preserve and pursue with Iran our strong bilateral political, economic and security relationship. Thank you.

Q Tom, will you be in a position to have any answers on that later in the day, or to be more responsive on that?

A I could be, yes. Let me ask Mr. Vance about it.

Q Thank you.

[The briefing concluded at 11:07 a.m.]

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UNCORRECTED TRANSCRIPT

A-1

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TRANSCRIPT OF SPECIAL NEWS BRIEFING  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1978, 4:00 P.M.  
(ON THE RECORD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

MR. RESTON: Good afternoon.

I want to try to give you a little bit of an update on where we stand on the tragic incidents which took place yesterday in Guyana. I think, essentially now, we are through Phase One of this operation, Phase One being essentially the outgrowth of the incidents in Guyana yesterday when the people were killed and wounded. Essentially, what we have is a figure of five persons dead, ten wounded, two of them seriously, and one slightly wounded who did not come out of Guyana. The person who was only slightly injured and who is ambulatory, as I said this morning, is the Deputy Chief of Mission of the United States Embassy in Guyana. His name is Mr. Richard Dwyer, and he has remained behind.

Q Are you counting him among the ten?

A I am counting him among the ten wounded.

Q Richard Dwyer?

A D-w-y-e-r.

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that particular part of Guyana is today, I'm sorry.

The bodies of the people who lost their lives at the airport are remaining behind in Guyana at the moment.

Q In Georgetown?

A No. They are last reported at the air strip. We believe that they will be transported to Georgetown as soon as possible.

Questions?

Q Is the Embassy officer going in with the troops to Jonestown?

A You mean is the Deputy Chief of Mission --

Q No. I understand it was an Embassy officer who flew out with them to Mathews Ridge and then into the air strip this morning, to Port Kaituma, an officer of the U.S. Embassy.

A I do not know whether an officer from the U.S. Embassy is accompanying the security forces which are making their way towards Jonestown. I will take that question. The Deputy Chief of Mission remains at the airstrip and is expected to depart shortly, if he has not done so already, for Georgetown.

The pathologist I mentioned this morning who went down on the C-141 from the United States has remained behind to assist the Guyanese authorities as they begin to conduct their investigations into the crimes which were apparently committed.

We have now not quite entered into the next phase of this series of occurrences, which is essentially what is going on now in Jonestown, Guyana. The Guyanese security forces and police forces which I was talking with you about this morning, have not yet reached Jonestown. They are not there yet. They are presently on that dirt road which runs from the air strip to the settlement at Jonestown. They are proceeding up the road. I do not have an estimated time of arrival for you. They are proceeding on foot; they are proceeding cautiously; and I just don't have an estimate for you on when they might reach there.

Q How far is that, Tom?

A It takes in a jeep, in dry weather, twenty minutes.

Q Is it wet down there?

A I do not know what the weather down there in



Without getting into anything accusatory, they have been on the ground there now for nearly twelve hours.

A Yes.

Q It's just a twenty-minute jeep ride away.

What is the explanation or the reason that they haven't gotten into Jonestown yet?

A I'm not sure what the situation on the ground is. I'm not sure whether there are vehicles available for them to use. I do not know whether there is motor fuel available there for the vehicles should they wish to use them. It's my understanding that they are proceeding on foot; they are proceeding cautiously. There is at least, given the events of yesterday, the possibility that hostile action could conceivably take place, although I hasten to add right away, we have no reports of any hostile action at this time. But I think that the Guyanese are proceeding cautiously.

Q Are we satisfied with the way they have gone about this?

A Yes.

Q Tom, we have heard of some people who are unidentified who are not among the dead or the wounded. How many are there and what is the process of going about looking for them?

A I think that we were talking about a number of people at the airport this morning who were there during the incidents. I think we were talking about around 18 or 20 who had originally come in on the flight from Georgetown, another six to ten who had indicated that they apparently wanted to leave the settlement at Jonestown, so what you're really talking about there is 25, 26, 27 people. We have accounted at the present time for 15 of them. We have no reports on the others.

Q You have ten missing, essentially?

A Ten that I don't have any reports to offer you on.

Q Do you have any more reports of suicides?

A No. I am not able at this time to confirm for you the report by the Guyanese police on the suicide of the woman in Georgetown, nor the death of the three

children in Georgetown.

As to what may be taking place in the State of California, in Los Angeles and in San Francisco, I have heard reports from at least San Francisco that nothing ontoward seems to be going on there at the moment, but really I am not your best source on that, and I refer you to the police departments of those two cities.

Q Tom, the one report of suicides at Jonestown, that is the one from the fellow who went overland last night to Mathews Ridge, and that's it, as far as you know?

A Let me try to -- There was a report of a suicide in Georgetown.

Q Right.

A And connected with that suicide was the death of three children. That is one incident. There is a report which has been made by a former member of the Peoples Temple Community at Jonestown, who escaped and went to Mathews Ridge last night. He has delivered a report to Guyanese authorities about mass suicides in

Jonestown. We have not yet been able to talk with the person who made that report. Therefore, I am not able to offer you any independent confirmation of that through U.S. officials, and obviously, not through the security forces which have not yet arrived at Jonestown.

Q Tom, did you release the names that took us from six this morning to ten? Do you have names to make that ten wounded?

A I'm sorry, I'm not in a position to offer you the names of the additional wounded. Let me say with regard to where we stand on the evacuation, the C-141 plane, which I mentioned to you this morning, took off from Georgetown, Guyana, at 12:56 EST. At just about 3:30 EST this afternoon it landed at Roosevelt Roads in Puerto Rico. Some of the most seriously wounded are being taken off the plane there so that they can receive medical attention -- medical attention in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The rest of the evacuees will be flown from Roosevelt Roads to Andrews Air Force Base in suburban, Maryland. I do not have an estimated time of arrival for that

C-141 for you at this time.

Q Has it taken off in Puerto Rico?

A It has not taken off, to my knowledge.

Q How many were taken off in Puerto Rico?

A The intention was to take off two in Puerto Rico, but I do not know -- that medical judgment could have been updated since the time I was given it, so I do not know how many actually have been taken off.

Q --which would leave, what, Tom, seven, then?  
You've got one left in --

A That would leave seven wounded on the plane which will be on its way to Andrews.

Q Could you confirm that an American has been arrested in connection with the killings?

A I have heard that report, but I am not in a position to confirm it for you.

Q What was the question?

A The question was, could I confirm a report that an American has been arrested in connection with the alleged killings, and I cannot confirm that report for you.

Q Tom, can you tell us who is still missing? Are both the attorneys among the missing?

A It is my understanding that both the attorneys who are counsel for the Peoples Temple Community are presently in Jonestown, Guyana.

Q They are not missing in Jonestown?

A It is my understanding that they are accounted for and that they are presently in Jonestown.

Q Does it follow that they went off on the flatbed truck or some such thing?

A No, it does not follow.

Q Were they at the airport or did they go back to the hotel?

A It is my understanding they were at the airport and that they are presently back in Jonestown.

Q How do we know that? How do we know that they are in Jonestown? We have absolutely no knowledge of what else is going on in Jonestown. Do we know that the two of them are there?

A It is my understanding that they are in Jonestown. I do not have a source for my information.

Q Tom, to get back to the original question, who is missing?

A All I can say is that I gave you a list this morning of the people who were on the original passenger list going into the airstrip and into Jonestown. I am just going to have to ask you to compare the list which I gave you this morning with the ones which I have accounted for.

Q Tom, I'm sorry -- you've been extremely cautious

A Ted, I'm sorry. Les.

Q That's all right. I'll yield to Ted, and then --

A No, go ahead, Les.

Q Is the Secretary aware that the Rev. Mr. Jones was made the head of the City Housing Authority by San Francisco's Democratic Mayor Mosconi, a protege of Congressman Burton?

A I don't know.

Q And during the Presidential Campaign of 1976--

A I've answered your question.

Q Wait a minute. I haven't finished it, Tom.

A I've answered your question.

Ted, go ahead.

Q Could I, please --

A Mr. Koppel.

Q Why not let Les finish it?

Q Yes.

A I do not know whether the Secretary was aware of it.



Q All right. Is he aware that Jones was asked aboard Vice President Mondale's chartered jet in the Presidential campaign, that he shared a platform with Rosalynn Carter?

A I don't know.

Q Will we ask for the Reverend Mr. Jones' extradition?

A I don't know.

Q Tom, how close --

A I'm sorry. Mr. Koppel was next.

Q Tom, since you were very cautious about the mass suicides that may or may not be going on in Jonestown, I'm just wondering how it is that you know -- and you do appear to know; I mean you're not couching it in your usual cautious language -- that both these attorneys are now in Jonestown. Do you have knowledge of anything that is going on in Jonestown?

A I'm sorry. The full investigation obviously is going to have to be taken, carried out, by the security forces which are on their way to Jonestown and which have not yet arrived there.

Q Well --

A Now, just a minute, please.

That is not to say that we have no information. Obviously we believe that the two attorneys at this time are in Jonestown.

Q Well --

A I don't have a sourcing for our information for you.

Q Tom, that's fine -- excuse me, if I could just follow up my own question. You know that and that the issue, which seems far more overriding at the moment, is whether or not 200 suicides or anything like it have taken place in Jonestown. You have no information at all on that?

A I have no information beyond the information which I just went over with you, and I sourced that information for you. I have no further information to offer on what may have occurred last night or yesterday afternoon in Jonestown.

Q Tom --

A Yes, sir.

Q Tom, have you talked or have Guyanan official U. S. officials, been in contact with either attorney in

Jonestown by phone?

A I don't believe so.

Q You don't know that they haven't.

A You are correct. I do not know that we have not.

Q You have no idea where this report comes from then, is that what you said?

A I am not in a position to give you a source on the report.

Q Well, did they stay behind yesterday?

A Did they stay behind yesterday?

Q In Jonestown -- which would explain their being there.

A You mean without going to the airport.

Q To the airfield, yes.

A It was my understanding that they had gone to the airport, but I will check myself and correct the record if I am wrong about that.

Yes, sir.

Q Can we assume that neither of the attorneys was wounded? Do you information on that?

A I have received no reports that either of

of the attorneys was wounded. On the other hand, I simply do not have any information about their physical condition. But I have received no reports that they were wounded.

Q Tom --

A Yes, sir.

Q Back to --

Q How close are we to identifying that fifth death?

A I am not sure that the next of kin has yet been notified.

Q I mean will we know before the day is out? Will there be some --

A I don't know. I will check on that for you.

Q Is she a member of a sect or not?

A I am not going to get into that until we have notified the next of kin.

Yes, sir.

Q Back of couple of things from this morning. If the State Department was aware of complaints before all this happened from parents of youngsters who apparently -- who might have been mistreated there -- did

the State Department ever take any action to stop it or actively at least investigate that possibility?

A Yes. It's one of those things that I wanted to clear up from this morning. In fact, I had a list. I went back through the transcript to see areas that I thought were somewhat confused. Unfortunately, I don't have my list in front of me here.

But let's go to this question. First of all I was asked what proportion of the settlement at Jonestown was children versus adults. It is our understanding that there are some 1,000 or 1,100 Americans resident at Jonestown, Guyana. Of those I have seen varying reports, but some 50 or 60 might be described as children. And by "children" I want to define this carefully because I mean children under 14 years old who are readily identified as adolescent or pre-adolescent children.

Now, I cannot give you an approximate number for people who might be in their twenties; and that might have been part of, kind of, the definition of "children." But that becomes increasingly difficult to identify. But the best figure I can give you -- and it's really a guesstimate -- is 50 or 60 children.

Now, I was asked this morning when the State Department first became aware of complaints that people were being held there against their will; and I was also asked whether the State Department had become directly aware of this.

The answer is that the State Department has been directly aware from American citizens of such complaints. And when such complaints began to reach us -- the answer to that question is the first of this year. So it's been about a year ago, less than a year ago.

Q Tom --

A Now, just let me -- can I finish with the gentleman's question, please?

Q Go on.

A Now, you ask further: What, if anything, did the State Department do? Did we investigate? What was the nature of our role in looking into this matter?

State Department consular officials, as I said this morning, did visit Jonestown, Guyana, on a periodic basis -- once a month or once every six weeks.

Q Consular officials?

A Consular officials.

During the course of these visits -- which were made for normal consular purposes -- to see whether, for instance, Social Security benefits were being received; to see that births were being registered as they occurred -- when we received complaints from relatives in the United States that, conceivably, people were being kept in Jonestown, Guyana, against their will, we attempted, as best we could, through our Consular Officers, to ascertain whether this was true. We attempted to talk with the individuals whose names we have been provided by their relatives here in the United States to see whether they believe they were being held against their will.

We attempted to do this, whenever we could, privately with the individuals named in the letters we had received from their relatives here in the United States.

Q Did you ever have contact with any of them?

A Yes. Our Consular Officers did.

Q Were there complaints that they made and, if so, were the complaints ever followed up?

A To my knowledge, no resident of Jonestown

ever admitted to a State Department Consular Officer that they were being held in Jonestown against their will.

Q Tom, you say these consular visits were monthly?

A Yes -- I think the frequency varied. We would go in there periodically, as we probably would in any similar situation where you have a large concentration of United States nationals resident in a foreign country.

Q One other follow-up, if you will, please: Any more on what we discussed this morning about briefings that Congressman Ryan might have received either here or advice he might have received in Guyana before making the journey? Was he warned not to go by anyone in the Government that you're aware of?

A Yes; I think I can clear that up. It was a matter of some confusion, and I apologize for this morning's briefing. But I have checked that out further and I really invite other questions which you were unclear about this morning because I did seek further elucidation.

I just don't have my list in front of me; but to respond to your specific question, it is my understanding that Congressman Ryan was in the Department of State in



August for a briefing. It is my understanding that he came back to the Department of State very shortly before his visit to ~~Guyana~~, which began on November 14th.

Congressman Ryan, by virtue of the constituency which he represents, was aware of the allegations made by certain of his constituents (with regard to the Community in Guyana.

I would not say that it would be fair to characterize those briefings as warning him not to go. I think the substance of what was discussed was more or less as the following:

I think, for the part of the State Department, we indicated to the Congressman that we recognized that it was part of his duty to render service to his constituents. And this was a problem which some of his constituents perceived and Congressman Ryan was behaving in a public-spirited manner in trying to track down those complaints. We offered to render assistance and, in fact, did render assistance to Congressman Ryan during his journey in Guyana. As I mentioned this morning, even the No. 2 man in our Embassy accompanied the Congressman as he went to Jonestown.

Now, having said that, I will say that the State

Department urged caution upon Congressman Ryan. And we did, in a logistical sense, indicate to him the logistical difficulties of taking a large entourage of people into so remote an area of Guyana. So we made him aware of lack of fuel supplies, lack of vehicles, difficulty of communication -- that sort of thing.

Q You didn't tell him that it was a peaceful, idyllic Community? There was no information given to him that things were peaceful there, or was that the information that he received?

A I can't -- you know, I have tried as best I can to give you the thrust of what the State Department was telling Congressman Ryan during those briefings so far as I understand it from the briefing officers.

Q Tom, that sounds a bit like the signs on the road when there's construction: "Proceed at Your Own Risk." Would that be a fair characterization of what State told the Congressman?

A No. I think what a fair characterization of what State told Congressman Ryan was as I have expressed it to you.

Q Tom, I don't understand. When you say the

State Department urged caution upon Congressman Ryan, you mean to say that they urged caution in respect to the logistical arrangements in Guyana or that they urged caution in a larger sense -- that this is a group that may be volatile?

A I think the thrust of what we were telling the Congressman really had to do with the logistical difficulties of taking a large entourage of people --

Q Now --

A Now wait; can I finish?

Q Sure.

A -- people on his own staff or on the Congressional staff, media people, relatives of people who might have been resident at Jonestown.

But, nevertheless, there was an aspect to it just to behave with caution and common sense. But I think this would be the normal kind of advice that our Embassies or the State Department would give Americans traveling abroad.

Q So if I understand it correctly, then, you are saying that there was no special caution given by the State Department to the Congressman regarding the kind of people he was dealing with.

A I am not in a position to elaborate for you because the person whom I talked with said we urged caution on him, and he did not elaborate. Therefore I am unwilling to wing it and try to elaborate on what I was told.

Q It is an important point, and I wonder whether you can ask again?

A I will attempt to get, if I can, an elaboration of the context of that word.

Q Tom, how did Congressman Ryan and his party proceed from the Port Kaituma airstrip to Jonestown? Did they go on foot or were they received by jeeps and taken there along the road?

A I will take that question.

Q Tom, other unfinished business from this morning, the version of the events that we have had up to now were based upon the eye witness report only of the air crews. You have now talked with some survivors,

presumably, who were also there. Do you have any change to make or any amplification to make on the basic sequence of events, or any more details about what happened?

A I have no changes that I wish to make in the sequence of events. I don't think I have any changes to make at all. Frankly what I have been concentrating on since the briefing this morning is trying to ascertain for you what has happened in fact since eleven o'clock this morning, and that would have to do mostly with the airlifting of the wounded and injured out of Guyana.

Q Do you have any information about the type of plane being used, for example?

A I said this morning that the plane which did get off the airstrip was a Cessna, and if you would like me to find out if I can what the make and model of the second airplane is which had to remain on the airstrip, I will take that question.

Q There were a number of other details, like what kind of weapons were used.

A I have tried to find out what kind of weapons were used. We have no reports on that.

Q Tom, since six years ago, the San Francisco Examiner reported on page one that the Reverend Mr. Jones had ushers in his church equipped with three 37 magnums, and since last summer the New West Magazine reported that Rosalyn Carter's Secret Service people went into a "thet" as they described it, because of these armed guards.

Why is it that the State Department urged logistical caution rather than, say, military caution?

A I think the answer to your question, Les, is that I have undertaken, in response to one of your colleagues, to see if possible I can get you an elaboration on the context of the word "caution."

Q Could I follow that up?

Q Tom, do we have yet the name of the United States embassy officer who accompanied the forces into the airstrip and who presumably may be with them in Georgetown?

A No, but I have undertaken to get you an answer to the question as to whether the embassy officer is indeed with the Security forces who are making their way up the road.

I will also take the question of what the name of such a person is.

Q But we don't have the name of the man who had gone up there to Mathews with the Security forces.

A I do not have that name in front of me. I will try to get it for you if there is such a person.

Q Did you say that in the morning transcript there is a complete passenger list for those two aircraft? Did you give that this morning?

A Yes.

Q I didn't find that.

A Yes, I did, except I did not give the names of, I think, three or four of the relatives.

Q Tom, after the initial attack last night, did the attackers immediately withdraw? And, secondly, during the night, did any of the wounded receive any kind of first aid from any source, or did they just lie there in the aircraft for hours?

A The answer to both your questions is, I don't know.

Q Tom, can I ask you about this four-page hand-out you gave us this morning?

There was a phrase in it which when you gave us your oral reading of this sequence of events, you omitted, and in the second draft of it, when you said

that the flatbed trailer pulled by a tractor appeared on the airstrip and that a number of people in the trailer opened fire on Congressman Ryan and his delegation, the phrase you omitted when you gave it to us orally was that this number of people in the trailer were presumed to be Peoples Temple members.

Is there any doubt in your mind as to whether they were indeed Peoples Temple members?

A The statement which I delivered to you this morning orally is the statement of the Department of State.

The thing which I handed out to you was for your ability to follow along. I said that the statement I was going to deliver would be somewhat different from the thing which you received.

The statement which I made orally is our statement.

I am not going to make any statement which might have an impact on the law in Guyana in the absence of a complete investigation by Guyanese security forces.

Q Tom, do you know whether the Guyanese authorities are proceeding to Jonesdown tonight, or do you know whether they will rest overnight on the road?



A I don't.

Q Tom, what attitude is the Department taking towards additional members of the press who might go to Guyana? The San Francisco Examiner has two men on the way, and I understand Time Magazine also has.

A I said this morning that there has been an understandable humanitarian concern with what has happened in Guyana, both in terms of the victims and in terms of us wanting to resolve this situation as efficiently as we can.

We have made an effort to bring increased embassy personnel to Georgetown. We have a C-130 on the way from Panama, stopping in Venezuela and going on into Georgetown, bringing administrative and consular personnel with it.

I understand also that there is one consular officer who is coming in commercially to Georgetown on commercial aircraft from Trinidad.

The embassy has an increased workload and I am sure that there will be others who will be interested in this story, and we will try to deal with it as efficiently as we can.

Q Tom, has there been direct contact either by the embassy or by the Department with the DCM, the Deputy Chief of Mission.

A Yes, I understand. I assume that there has been, because at one point I was told that he expected to be in Georgetown by dark, and at another time I was told that he was still at the airstrip at Port Kaituma.

Now I assume that that indicates some communication between Georgetown and the Deputy Chief of Mission, but I don't know of any specific telephonic communication.

Q Do you plan to get back to us again this evening?

A No, I had not planned on getting back to you again this evening.

Q Are there any efforts for handling some of the people in Jonestown who might want to leave? Is the United States going to provide transportation for those people who might want to leave now?

A We will await the arrival of Guyanese security forces in the Jonestown area so that we can ascertain what the facts are on the ground. If there are people in need of medical attention, we will be prepared to provide all assistance necessary to treat them

or to deal with their desires. But until we have a good fix on the factual situation, I think that the question which you ask is a hypothetical one.

Q Tom, can you tell us if Congressman Ryan proceeded without -- on this trip without any kind of contact with the Jonestown community or its leaders, or was there some kind of a prior contact before he went in there?

A I am not competent to answer your question. I suggest you contact the Congressman's office.

Q Are there any bodies that might be brought out, and how will they be brought back to the United States?

A The bodies will be brought back as soon as possible from Port Kaituma to Georgetown.

Q Tom, can you tell us who is on the C-141 that is on its way back? Is it just the wounded, or other members of the Congressman's party?

A It is, without giving names, nine wounded, one relative of a wounded person, the crew, which is flying the airplane, a back-up crew to fly the airplane, and I believe nine medical, seven personnel, medical

personnel, doctors and nurses.

Q Seven or nine? I'm sorry.

A Seven.

Q Seven medical.

A Yes.

Q Tom, is the Justice Department involved or the FBI involved in investigating the shooting or killing yet?

A Ask the Justice Department.

Q Do you happen to know yourself?

A I don't.

Q Tom, is it known how many other Congressmen have been murdered while in a foreign country?

A Not by me. Any other questions?

Q Wait a minute, Tom, I haven't finished.

A Go ahead, your next.

Q All right. You said twice that those bodies will be taken back to Georgetown as soon as possible.

A Yes.

Q Do you have any idea how soon after that they will be brought back to the United States?

A No, sir. It is my understanding, or it would seem logical to me that pursuant to the laws of Guyana, there would have to be an investigation, which would mean that there would have to be an autopsy to establish the cause of death of these people. And I believe that that would probably have to be carried out within the territorial jurisdiction of Guyana.

Q Could I ask a question on another matter?

A Yes.

Q Could you tell us what the origin was of this statement by Secretary Vance this morning on Iran, what prompted it?

A It was in response to press items which we saw in the Soviet press yesterday with regard to the situation in Iran.

Q Tom, in other words, if the autopsy and investigation drag on, apparently the Carter administration is not going to do anything except deplore the murder of the Congressman and the news men.

A The question is entirely hypothetical. The United States Government has dispatched a pathologist to assist the Guyanese authorities. We believe that the

cooperation thus far of the Guyanese authorities has been splendid.

Q Thank you, Tom.

[The briefing concluded at 4:40 p.m.]

## SPECIAL ON-THE-RECORD BRIEFING

BY

JOHN A. BUSENELL  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
FOR INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

ON

THE GUYANA INCIDENT

Monday, November 20, 1978

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(On the Record unless Otherwise Noted)

MR. R2STON: Mr. John Bushnell, who is Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for American Republic Affairs.

MR. BUSHNELL: I have been handling the task force which we have set up over the weekend to manage the situation in Guyana.

I might start by trying in very broad sweep to give you the situation in a prepared statement and then I'll respond to your questions. This can all be ON THE RECORD. If we come to anything that I want to deal with only ON BACKGROUND I will do so.

We know now that there has been a great calamity in Guyana involving a large number of American citizens. There have been coldblooded murders and apparently many suicides.

Yesterday we managed to evacuate the injured from the attacks on the Congressional delegation at Port Kaituma. Today our attention is concentrated on the situation in Jonestown, the center for the Peoples Temple in Guyana.

The entire situation is complicated by the very large logistical problems. Jonestown is about 150 miles from Georgetown, the capital, by air. There are only a



couple of very small dirt strips in the area, and they are several miles from the compound on the center of Jonestown itself.

This morning the situation was further complicated by torrential rains, which are not uncommon in that part of the world. We expect shortly to have official American personnel in Jonestown. In fact, I've just talked to the Ambassador in Georgetown and he believes that some American personnel have now arrived in Jonestown; and we hope within a couple of hours to have adequate radio communication with them. We do not have that at the moment.

At the moment we have the information passed to our Embassy by the Guyanese police who entered Jonestown last night. This is fragmentary and incomplete but indicates a number of dead currently estimated by the Guyanese police at about 400.

Throughout this incident, the Government of Guyana has been cooperating fully with us. Thus far all the reports indicate that the incidents only involve Americans. Of course, major crimes have been committed in Guyanese territory and that government recognizes its

responsibilities in this area.

Early on in this crisis, the United States Government offered whatever assistance might be needed to the Guyanese Government. Given the magnitude of the problem, the Guyanese Government has asked us for assistance, particularly in the field of transportation, and we are making urgent arrangements to introduce military helicopters into the area. We are also supplying a number of other non-lethal items, such as radios, to the Guyanese police and security forces operating in the Jonestown area.

Although a considerable number of American -- largely military -- personnel will be involved in the support operation, at this point the primary legal responsibility for bringing those who are guilty to justice remains with the Guyanese Government. As I have said, they are cooperating fully with us and have formed this morning a cabinet-level committee to coordinate their efforts in this very unfortunate situation that has occurred on their territory.

Let me stop with that as a prepared statement and take whatever questions you might have.

Q Could you say -- your comment about the major crimes committed and the Guyanese Government

recognizes its responsibility -- do you mean by that that you have had discussions with them regarding the extradition of any of these people under the treaty that we have with Guyana?

A We have not at this point had any discussions on extradition. The evidence -- the facts that we have -- I wouldn't call it "evidence" at this point -- the fact that we have indicate that crimes such as murder have taken place in Guyana. These are crimes in Guyana; they are not crimes in the United States. And initially this would involve trial under the Guyanese law and procedures, and they recognize that situation.

It is conceivable that there are crimes that have taken place in the United States, particularly involving such issues as conspiracy. That question is under investigation by our law enforcement authorities. Conceivably, that could result at some point in a request for extradition. But that is a more uncertain situation than the situation we have on the ground there today.

Q Do you have any idea of the location of --

Q I want to follow up that point specifically because Mr. Holsinger, who I understand is an aide to the

late Congressman Ryan, has already charged that the State Department ignored requests -- or, rather, that the Guyanan Government ignored U. S. court order requests that Jones be extradited. Do you know anything about that at all?

A To my knowledge, there was not an official request communicated in the normal way for the extradition of Jones from Guyana. I would say on this subject that there have been a number of legal problems which have arisen in the interface between large numbers of Americans and the Guyanese system. These have particularly involved the custodianship of children who were in the colony in Guyana where one or another parent or relative wished to claim them. Action has been taken in some of these cases in Guyanese courts, and this has been an issue of some discussion from time to time -- certainly between our Embassy and the Guyanese authorities -- but I know of no formal extradition request having been made for Mr. Jones.

Q Mr. Holsinger also said, Mr. Bushnell, yesterday that Congressman Ryan was very concerned and had complained to his staff that the information coming from our Embassy there was inadequate -- that he was

getting less than the in-depth analysis that he was requesting based upon reports from his constituents that they had relatives who were being held involuntarily in the encampment.

A Let me just say that the Consular Section of our Embassy has made regular visits to Jonestown in order to provide consular services. Because of the substantial volume of requests which they had from American-citizen family members suggesting that members of their family were being held in Jonestown against their will, they tried in these cases, where this was brought to their attention, to have private face-to-face discussions with these people in Jonestown. They had a large number, a substantial number -- I don't have an exact figure -- over the course of the last many months of such discussions. They did not find any case where meeting face to face with the person in Jonestown that that person indicated they were being held there any way against their will.

What they found was reported back to the concerned family members.

It obviously was not possible, given the remoteness of Jonestown and our limited consular staff and

so forth, to always respond as rapidly as concerned family members might like nor with as much detail as they might like; but I think that in the cases on which we were made aware the Consular Officers did have face-to-face contact in Jonestown with the involved family members.

Q Do you think that they were --

Q Mr. Bushnell, is there anybody left alive in Guyana to extradite -- according to the reports you've had?

A There are certainly a number of people who have been associated with the Peoples Temple colony there who are still alive. There are a small number who have at this point made their way into Georgetown and there are some others that have made their way to various police points in remote areas of the country. Whether or not any of these people were involved in any of the deplorable criminal actions, we have no way of knowing at this time. The last report that we have from the Guyanese police on the ground in Jonestown is that they do not -- they have not found any living persons there.

Q What about the nine that were supposedly arrested? Wait a minute -- what about the nine who were

supposedly arrested? What has become of them?

A I am not aware of some number of nine supposedly arrested. But there are a number of people who have come in to police posts remote from Jonestown, a number of miles from Jonestown. These people are under police custody at the moment -- if we want to use the word "custody" -- until the situation is sorted out. Whether or not any of them are responsible for any sort of crime has certainly not yet been determined. That is presumably being looked at in some respect.

There is one case that I know of -- and there may be other cases -- where the Guyanese authorities have denied--refused to allow Americans associated with the People's Temple to leave the country because of the potential suspicion at least that they were involved.

So far as I know, there is no one yet arrested charged with the crime. There have only been -- and we're in the very initial stages; we should keep in mind of this. There are the people that have made their way to these police points; they are being questioned and so forth:

Q Do you have any idea, Mr. Bushnell, where Jones, Garry, and Mark Lane are?

A In the wee hours of this morning I was

informed that both Lane and Garry are in the hotel in Georgetown.

Q Where is Jones?

A I do not know where Jones is.

[Cont'd on pg. C-1.] —



Q Mr. Bushnell, Mr. Holsinger said some other things to Reporters yesterday. He said that Congressman Ryan had asked State to investigate this, but was assured there was no cause for alarm and he said directly they told us everything was fine among the Temple followers in Guyana; they said it was a private matter between private citizens and Iran should not get involved.

Now, that is a fairly serious charge. I wonder if you could respond to that?

A I think given the level of understandable emotion that we have surrounding this whole issue and we have upstairs in the Operation Center a number of people who have been on the phone to relatives and so forth over the last 48 hours, there are a lot of things being said. There is in this sort of situation one which, fortunately I might say, we in the State Department don't become involved in all the time. But in the sort of family tensions that arise, in this sort of situation, there is the feeling frequently that, one, that the Government, whatever the Government is, and in this case it tends to be our Embassy in Guyana,

is not able to satisfy all of the questions, all of the aspects, that concern family members raised. I think that is understandable.

I would say that we had a series of Briefings for the Congressman and his staff before he made this trip. We pointed out to him, on the one hand, that our Consular Officers had been regularly visiting Jonestown; none of them had ever been molested in any way; these visits had been open; that they had been able to talk to whoever they wanted to, as I indicated earlier. Nonetheless, we pointed out to him that it was well known to him, as well as to us, that the camp had armed guards; that it was in a very remote area; very hard to reach; there was not a significant Guyanese law enforcement presence in the area. Nonetheless, I think that we have certainly found it in the State Department very difficult to say to any Congressman that he should not visit other American citizens, particularly those who are his constituents, wherever in the world. He might find them.

We did feel that because he had been visited personally by a number of people who had left that

settlement in Guyana and who had first-hand information of what went on there -- they have also visited us and given us explanations, which we presume were similar to the explanations given to him -- that, in fact, he was as aware of the situation there; as aware of some of the plans and the procedures of this group of people; as we were.

We discussed all these problems with him and his staff in detail. We pointed out the very real limits of any American Embassy anywhere in the world in terms of security for visiting people, but we had to leave, and I think it was proper for us to leave to him, the choice of whether or not he made the visit and the final arrangements for doing so.

Q Has the Department made contact with Gary and Lane and has it learned anything from them or anyone else as to what sparked it exactly, what went on beyond what we have in the Press Reports?

A I would say, to be perfectly frank with you, this morning some of our Consular Officers in Georgetown talked for an hour and a half with Mr. Lane. They have prepared a report, which is at this point

arriving here. I have not read it. But we have been in contact. We have obviously substantial problems and will have of the Privacy Act in terms of revealing what is in the cable to the press even after we have looked at it, but it may give us some additional information.

Q Can you be a little more specific on the inter-relationship between the United States and local authorities?

In other words, you spoke before of questioning. Are American officials or will they be present at such questioning, participate? It is sort of a joint investigation? Or are you confident that somehow, you know, they are doing the job and you will hear about it?

How inter-related or how involved is the U.S. Government in the investigation?

A The basic responsibility for the investigation and, of course, the basic capability to do it is with the Guyanese. We have offered assistance of various sorts. They have taken us up on the offer of particularly transport and things like this. We anticipate

having a number of legal attaches -- those are attaches of the FBI -- going to Guyana as soon as we can arrange it. These are people that would have had expertise with the sort of situation that has arisen there that could help them with interviewing and so forth.

We have indicated that we will make available laboratory work and other sorts of things like that from the United States.

At this stage in the investigation, which is the very initial stages, we are essentially standing open to provide whatever might be useful that they would require and until the investigation advances we will not know precisely what that will be.

Q Mr. Bushnell, at this point are you clear at all on how many of the American deaths that were reported this morning were suicides and how many were murders?

What do the Guyanese Police report to your people?

A Frankly, we are not clear on that until we get the reports from our own people in that area.

The initial report that we had indicated that

at least many or most of the bodies which they had seen seemed to have no signs of external trauma or damage. That, however, was not a complete inventory. I would not want to rule out that there are bodies with that sign, but at least the initial report from the people initially arriving indicated that the bodies that they seem to be inspecting and seeing closely did not have any signs of external damage.

Q That would still leave about 700 Americans not accounted for. There are 400 bodies and yesterday you people said there were 1100 people there.

A I want to stay away, if we can, and I think it is going to raise a lot of hopes, perhaps unnecessarily in this country with too much of a numbers game.

Our estimate of 1100 Americans in that colony was an estimate as of some months ago. It is not something which we have any facility for keeping up to date every time there is a birth, every time anybody leaves, and so forth.

It was at that time an approximate figure. It

is conceivable certainly, although we have no evidence, that a substantial number even of people have left the colony over the intervening time. We do not know that.

So that, we do not know whether or not if we added up what is also a rough estimate of 400 bodies -- There may be more bodies yet to be found. We cannot rule that out -- the number of people that we have identified as having arrived in Georgetown, arrived at police posts, and so forth, which is less than 100, and people who may still be out in the bush in the jungle, whether we have a statistical situation with people that seem to be missing or not until we get much more information.

Q Mr. Bushnell, when was the last visit?

State keeps saying that Consular officials made periodic visits to Jonestown.

Can you tell us when Consular officials from Georgetown made their last visit there?

A I cannot. At this moment I don't have in front of me that date. I think we can get you that date.

Q And did they have some idea at that time

of how many people were there?

Certainly they should be able to tell if they saw 400, 500 or a thousand, etcetera.

A We will get you a date as to when the last Consular visit was there, but I don't think that a Consular Officer going in for a day doing his business necessarily is able to read very well how many people there are there. There are people that are out in the fields, there are people on other chores, and so forth. I don't think that by the visit one would come up with any particularly good notion of how many people were there.

Q John, is it possible to get a chronology of Consular visits in recent months, including those that related to the specific complaints from relatives?

A We can prepare for you, I think, from the records of the Embassy -- we will probably have to contact them to do this -- a list of the dates over 1978, let's say, at which Consular Officers visited Jonestown.

In all of these visits they took up some problems raised by family members. So that, the list of visits would include -- all those visits would involve



that problem.

Q Sir, in those visits that these Consular Officers made, I think you said in your opening remarks that they had not come up with any instance in which in a private conversation with a member of the community those people expressed either the fact that they wanted to leave or that they were being held against their will.

But in your Briefings with Congressman Ryan and his staff, certainly they presented indications to the contrary, indications which may have turned out to be true, if we can credit those things that have been said by the survivors of the incident at the airport the other day.

Now, I am wondering how the Department and the Congressman's staff managed to reconcile in the Briefings that were held before he went down there what appeared to be an inconsistency of the status of the people who were living in that compound; your Consular Officers saying that everything was all right down there and Ryan's people coming up with, I would assume, a substantial number of indications to the contrary?

A All that our Consular Officers could physically do, recognizing that we did not have a Consular post in the community or anything like that, is to sit down with a person and talk with them and give them every opportunity in private to raise any complaints with the situation of that nature, that they couldn't leave if they wanted to leave, that they would want to raise. They did not do so.

Now, whether, in fact, even some of these people who may subsequently have left the camp felt that there was some constraint on them, which they didn't bring up with the Consular Officer, I could not speak to.

The role of the Consular Officer, -- remember these are American citizens, both in the camp and complaining -- is limited certainly in terms he is not engaged in investigation. He was engaged in talking with them face to face and giving them an opportunity to raise problems that they felt they might have had.

We do know, of course, that there are a number of people who did leave the camp.

Q Do you know if any of those who did leave

are among those that your people had visited previously and had been told that we don't want to leave; if any of those people that came to Ryan and said I do want to leave had given a conflicting story to your own people?

A I do not have an answer to that.

You posed two questions.

I don't believe that any of the people that went to Ryan had been in that category. It may well be that people that had left were in that category.

Q I was asking about do you know if the set of people that wanted to leave with Ryan, if any of those people had been previously contacted during these Consular visits?

A This is of the six to ten people who were leaving with him.

We do not at this moment even have a complete set of names for those people. So, until we get that we cannot address that.

(Continued on C-1.)

Q Can you just clarify one thing for me?

In answer to Ted's question earlier, you said that you did not have any record of a formal record of a request for extradition of Jones. Could you clarify, had there been other requests, a non-official request, or anything of that sort? I mean, what is the background of that that you chose your language so carefully?

A I would say that for extradition requests that come through courts, through the State Department, there is a procedure. I don't think that there is such a thing as an informal request for extradition. Extradition is a legal procedure. You either do it formally or presumably not at all.

Now, I cannot rule out that there may be a law enforcement officer somewhere in the United States that may have said that he would like to have Jones back under his control in some sense. That is not an extradition request. An extradition request requires a legal procedure.

Q Just to clarify that, was the Department approached, either State or Justice, by such a law enforcement officer requesting extradition of Mr. Jones?

A Well, this Department and the other Departments of the government are very big places. If we were approached formally, the State Department would certainly have proceeded formally with it.

I cannot say for all the people in this building and other buildings that nobody ever had a conversation about it.

Q Do you know of any attempts, or was the FBI interested in getting to Mr. Jones, do you know?

A I think that is a question that you have have to ask the FBI.

Q Well, do you know of attempts?

A I do not personally know of any attempts by -- and it would come to my attention essentially if it was a formal thing. Whether there was any interest, discussions, I do not have any knowledge of it.

Q John, you can understand that there is a tremendous amount of interest at this point in precisely what happened at Jonestown, and you have indicated that a number of people from Jonestown are now in Georgetown, where presumably they have been debriefed by local police, and where presumably some of your people have been in touch.

Would you give us as much as you can of what you know?

A I will say that we are in the process of this. In the course of the morning, there have been such contacts as you have mentioned. The people that have had these contacts are writing this up, and we do not physically have it here. I have not felt that this was something I should go into in depth over the phone. It is better to get that in writing. So, we will have those reports coming in to us, and at this point I cannot say any more than that.

We do have reports from Guyanese authorities that a suicide pact of some sort was implemented, that some people fled the camp area, the compound, the area called Jonestown, as that process was underway.

Now, that is the extent of the reports that we have heard. I am not even saying that that is what we know because I don't want to give that the full gloss of being a fact. But until we can actually get a series of conversations with people who were in the compound at the time, we will not have a very good understanding of what did happen.

Q Mr. Bushnell, let me just follow up, if I may, because yesterday there was some information which came out of this Department to the effect that a message was sent from Jonestown to the Headquarters of the sect in Georgetown requesting an additional aircraft, because, so the message said, some extra people wanted to leave. Is that accurate, first of all? And, secondly, how does that fit in with what obviously happened there-after?

A That is essentially adequate, as I understand it. The embassy, of course, was responsible for providing transport, ~~arranging~~ transport, for the Congressional delegation, as is normal for Congressional delegations.

The embassy does not, and did not, at that time, have any communications, and has never had any communication with Jonestown. There are no telephones. There are no communications.

My understanding is that the people at Jonestown have communicated by essentially short-wave amateur radio, (Georgetown?) including communicating with their office in Jonestown.

At about noon, Georgetown time, on Saturday,

the embassy was called by the Georgetown office of the Peoples Temple which said that their people in Jonestown had called and there were some people from Jonestown that wished to leave with the Congressional party, that this was a number of, as I recall, six to ten people were given, and therefore there was a request that the embassy provide additional transport in order to bring those people out at the same time as the Congressional party.

There was no indication of anything having to do with motivation of this, but that is the report that the embassy did receive, and has been repeated to me by embassy officials.

Q Mr. Bushnell, yesterday morning at the first briefing, the State Department had said really nothing in reply to a question. The spokesman said, "We didn't warn the Congressman." Yesterday afternoon, the State Department said it had given him logistical warnings. This morning you mention he was informed of armaments, armed guards, and other problems.

I am wondering if all of this comes down to that he really was being told without the actual words being used that State would rather he not go in there,



that it was unsafe, that it was dangerous, that he might lose his life?

A Let me try to put this in perspective in the following way. We have had over the last, more than a year, a great many conversations by State Department people with the Congressman and particularly with various members of his staff. He was, of course, interested in the situation there. It was a matter important to his office, to him, and to his constituency.

We were very aware in the State Department that just as our Desk Officers were seeing individuals who had left the colony, that the Congressman and his staff were seeing these same individuals. In fact, we would often refer an individual that would come to one of their offices first to come to the office. So we were aware from this longer series of discussions that the Congressman had essentially the same body of knowledge about this situation as we had. In fact, there are many of us which assume that if anything, he might have, in some aspects, have known more than we did, because he had reports from his constituency, from his office, and so forth.

So it was not as though -- and I think this is

perhaps the misimpression that has gotten around -- that when the Congressman came to see us, we began to brief him, as though this was a new situation which he had no familiarity with.

Obviously he had immense familiarity with it. He knew virtually almost as much about it as we did, so that to a considerable extent, what we concentrated on briefing him were those things we thought he would not have been familiar with; for example, on what our consular officers who had been visiting the area had done, what they had encountered there, and so forth, such as the presence of armed guards in the camp, and the very difficult problems that we would face in handling a Congressional delegation, of moving them up there, particularly if, in addition to the official members of the party there were other members of the party that wanted to go at the same time, and so forth.

It did not seem to the people that were giving this briefing that they needed to say in so many words that this was a dangerous undertaking. I think that that was, in some respects, clear to everyone involved in the issue.

On the other hand, I suppose in some respects, it has been somewhat dangerous, in retrospect, at least, for our consular officers to be going in there once a month, and yet they have been doing that, and doing it successfully for some time.

So that is the general perspective of which one should look at this situation of what we told the Congressman and his staff beforehand.

Q Mr. Bushnell, can you assume that the State Department in the field would know more than a Congressman hearing reports from his constituents? Shouldn't one assume that the analysis from the scene would have more than -- just meetings with people would have some kind of independent assessment from other local sources, that there were other things, such as the mass suicide pact afoot?

A As I said, we did brief the Congressman on what the embassy had sent in. That was the particular view which we could add to the view that he was getting independently from people who had been there, and so forth.

I do not myself have any personal knowledge about any so-called suicide pact, and so forth. We do

have, as you know, we operate under considerable restraints in terms of our own constitutional provisions on religious freedom, and so forth. And I think all consular officers of the Foreign Service have to be circumspect in the sorts of questions in terms of religious ceremonies and so forth that they might ask, and information that we might ask of that nature.

So that I think we did share with him the sort of information that we had in giving him as full a briefing on the situation as we could.

[See Section D.]

Q I wonder if, picking up on being circum-  
spect, do you suppose that possibly why your officials  
were able to get in and out safely, and possibly why  
your officials were not able to find anybody who was  
being held against his will was because possibly --  
and I don't want to put words in your mouth, but I'd  
like you to speculate -- they were so circumspect that  
they didn't ruffle anybody or dig too deeply? Could that  
have been the reason? That they had no trouble, where  
Ryan did?

Eushne II:

A I won't let you put any words in my mouth  
on that, but let me just say this --

Q I know the First Amendment, too.

A --that the consular officer has a certain  
service to provide, issuing birth certificates, passports,  
the various sorts of things that he needs to do. This  
brings him in very direct personal contact with a wide  
range of people. The individual consular officers  
requested to see the individuals where they had received  
requests from family members; those individuals appeared,  
talked with them. The consular officers had previously

read the letters from their involved family members of what they had said; they explored what was said in those letters; they talked back and forth. I think I would at least argue that our consular officers are, by and large, and certainly our ones in Guyana are very sensitive individuals. They would certainly not try to embarrass any American citizen sitting in front of him, but they, since they would then go back and themselves draft what in many cases was an agonizingly hard letter to draft, describing to the family member what they had found, I think they would watch for the nuance, they would watch for what was said in order to get a feeling for that situation.

Q Can I ask, then, what is your explanation -- Wait a minute. I want to follow that: What is your explanation for why your people could go in and out with apparent ease and these people got gunned down on the runway?

A Until we have a lot more facts, I think we would just be speculating on this situation. Obviously, something happened somehow at a critical time. If we look back over it, the Congressional delegation was admitted to the camp, it was there for some time; the

shooting occurred, not at the camp but at the airport. Obviously, this raises a large number of questions and we simply do not have the answers to those questions, and we have a lot of investigating to do, a lot of people to talk to. I suspect, as often in these cases, the stories will not be identical -- we will have to do some sorting out of the situation. There is, obviously, a difference between a substantial Congressional delegation and the visit of an individual consular officer who is coming on, what is generally perceived to be important business in terms of establishing the rights of American citizens of the other people in the compound.

Q Mr. Bushnell, I would like to follow up that question also. The question I would raise with you is whether a consular officer going in would be empowered to say, "I'm prepared to take you out with me if in fact you want to leave." Might that not be a significant difference between what a consular officer has to say and what Congressman Ryan had to say?

A What the consular officer could have done in that case, of course, never arose. However, we did

not, as I have said, encounter any situation in which anyone indicated to a consular officer that he or she wished to leave the camp and was being detained, if he was.

Q That's not the question I was raising. The question I was raising was whether a consular officer would volunteer the information that if someone wanted to leave, he, with the power of the U.S. Government behind him, was prepared to facilitate that.

A I think that it would be implicit or explicit in what he said that should an individual indicate that he wished to leave, that he would work towards that end.

Q But would he initiate that subject? Would he say, "If you want to leave, we will help you?"

Q Today.

A Let me go back to the "today" part. I think that what he would have in mind and what he would communicate would not be that he as one individual would put his arm around somebody and necessarily escort them out of a camp. However, there are many ways in which this could be done. My own experience would suggest that



if he determined that there were someone whom, that there was even a strong presumption to believe was being held there against his will, he would have consulted with the Guyanese officials who had responsibility in order to have them make sure that there was not any sort of illegal kidnapping sort of activity going on.

MR. CARTER: I'm not cutting this off, I've been asked for a filing break for some, so a filing break and we'll go on.

(Filing break.)

Q Did your fragmentary evidence indicate when the pact was arranged, was it after Ryan's death?

A I have absolutely no information on that.

Q When are the bodies coming back and where?

Q What can be done with the Congressman's body, for example?

A The autopsies have been performed; by this time they should have been completed. We will be flying the bodies of the five dead Americans back to the United States. The present planning which we have, of which all the times and details are not completely firm, would

suggest that the bodies will be back in the United States and probably at the appropriate locations in the United States by dawn tomorrow.

Q Were the autopsies done by the American team or were they done by Guyanese officials?

A The autopsies were done by Guyanese officials. There was present a pathologist whom we flew down, an American.

Q Just to clarify, when you referred to murder and suicide in your initial comment, were you referring to murders beyond those that we are aware of, in other words, Congressman Ryan and the NBC --

A I, at this point, have no basis for saying that there were murders beyond those that took place at the airport. Those we have quite a strong basis for, of course. But actually in the camp, as I said, the initial report from the police officials there indicated no external signs of trauma on the bodies. That is all we have to go by, but I would certainly not want to suggest that there were murders there. I would also not

necessarily suggest that there were not. We just don't know yet.

Q On the return of the bodies, you say to the appropriate places, are these going, is each body going to be returned to its home town separate, or are they all coming in on one plane and then being transferred?

A Where the bodies will be delivered, of course, will be worked out with the next-of-kin, and we will deliver them in that way. Depending on the finalization of all those arrangements, I do not know at this point whether they will all leave Guyana on the same plane or that they will leave in a couple of planes going to different destinations. Those details remain to be worked out. We have an immensely complicated, at the moment, program of aircraft movements taking in supplies and helicopters and so forth taking out the bodies of these people. We, of course, have another problem down the line which involves the bodies of the people in Jonestown.

Q Mr. Bushnell, I know you are busy, but could you do this again toward the end of the day?

A I would be prepared to meet with a group at some time towards the end of the day. What is the best time, from your point of view?

Q Four o'clock, please.

Q Four or four-thirty.

MR. CARTER: Will you have enough news --

MR. BUSHNELL: The later, of course, the more that we will have. I think we will have something more probably by 4:30.

Q Say, 5:00?

Q No. 4:30 -- deadlines, 4:30.

Q Mr. Bushnell, you may have answered this: Was any attempt made to elicit any information from the legal counsel who were representing the Peoples Temple about what conditions may have been like, there?

A Any attempt made by the State Department?

Q Yes.

A We have had some conversations with their legal counsel, both on individual problems such as custody problems and on the general situation.

Q Mr. Bushnell, I'm finding it difficult to understand. If this group was causing enough concern to

warrant once-a-month visits by your consular officers, when they would issue birth certificates and whatnot, and since it is so unusual for a religious group to transplant itself in large numbers to a foreign country, why you don't have a real count on who these people were. Did you have any discussion with the Guyanese Government as to how many were there, why they were there really, and why the Guyanese let them stay there?

A Let me say this, that in relation to the count it is the normal procedure that American Embassies everywhere in the world ask that Americans resident in the country register with them, giving their addresses, phone numbers and so forth, so that they are registered with the Embassy. This request has been made repeatedly, both of individual Americans and of the group leadership at the Peoples Temple, but very few in fact registered.

Now, in terms of your visit of once a month, the primary controlling factor here was not an element of concern, it was a matter of trying to provide consular services to a substantial number of Americans in a very isolated region. We were not going there because we were

concerned about them in some sense. We were going there to provide the consular services of issuing birth certificates, death certificates, passports, all of these sorts of things that we do for Americans overseas, and because it was inherently inconvenient for them to come to the Embassy, which is what we would normally require of people in this situation. They would be expected to come to the Embassy for these services. There were, as you know, a great many young people in that camp. There were frequent births, and so forth, and that was what controlled the approximately once-a-month visits.

Q John, when the Department received complaints or inquiries from relatives of people in Jonestown, to follow up, who exercised the principal policy and administrative control in terms of referring these to the Embassy? Would this be ARA or was it the Bureau of Consular Affairs?

A I suppose it would depend on who got the letter first. They would come in in some cases to Consular Affairs; they would come in in some cases to ARA. The desk officer and the people working on that in Consular Affairs would consult. In some cases, if it were

were sort of non-specific, general requests for information that would be required, it would be provided by the appropriate bureau; in other cases, it would be referred to the Embassy. In the sort of cases where we have raised where the letter made the accusation that an individual was being held there in some respects against his will, then the consular officer on his next visit would try to talk with that person, and as I said, had been successful in doing so, and would then himself prepare the response, either directly or back through channels here depending on what was appropriate.

Q What channels?

Q What I was getting at was, in the days just prior to the last visit to Guyana, the visit that Congressman Ryan made to Guyana, was any consultation done with Mr. Lane or Mr. Garry about the probability or the possibility of such an event as took place on Saturday?

A I doubt if someone raised that sort of an event. There were some contacts, I think, between some

State Department people and between the Congressman's office and these people. I am not fully informed at this point on that, so I cannot answer that question very definitively.

MR. CARTER: The Deputy is going to be back again this afternoon. He has done fifty minutes and he really ought to get back to work.

I'll be happy to pick up the briefing on other subjects or see what I can do even on this one.

Thanks a lot, John. I appreciate it.

(Mr. Bushnell left the briefing.)

Q Hodding, could you just be more specific on the subject of what transportation has been provided, what types of military --

A Let me suggest on that that you call Tom Ross or Tom Lambert at the Department of Defense. I talked to him this morning about it. It seems to me they have the best sense of the scheduling and the equipment. A couple 141's, I know; but beyond that, I do not know.

Q Do we have a time this afternoon for the news conference?



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TRANSCRIPT OF SPECIAL NEWS BRIEFING  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1978, 4:35 P.M.

(ON THE RECORD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

MR. CARTER: All right, ladies and gentlemen.

Deputy Assistant Secretary will take up again where he  
off at 1:05.

MR. BUSHNELL: Thanks, Hodding.

I'll start off with just a few developments  
that we've had since and then we can go back to the questions.

I have to be somewhat apologetic, and I want  
to make it clear that I'm being apologetic; I'm not being  
defensive. I gather some of you thought I was being  
defensive this morning that I do not have as much information  
as I had hoped.

We have a four-man military communication  
team which we are deploying to Jonetown up country that  
will have direct communication through Panama to us  
here; and this would give us by far, infinitely far, the  
best communication that we've had to date with the area  
where these incidents have occurred.

I had hoped we would have that communication  
facility operating before this briefing and I would have  
the first readout direct from our people in Jonestown.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR  
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However, because of the bad weather this morning, the fact that the Embassy finally was able to charter the one Cessna in the country to get them up there, the fact that they've had to move their equipment from the airport into Jonestown, they are not yet operational. The present estimate is that it will be another couple of hours before they'll be operational. I suppose that in the usual way of Murphy's Law there may be more things that will go wrong. So I do not yet have what I had hoped to have, which is direct contact with Americans in the Jonesville site of greatest concern.

What we have, therefore, is a certain amount of indirect information passed to us by the Guyanese from their people on the ground.

The first -- perhaps the main -- piece of interesting information from -- let me repeat again so everybody is clear on this -- this is information the Guyanese police forces have passed back to their headquarters and they have then passed to us. In some cases they have also apparently made a public announcement. The Guyanese forces on the ground report that their people who know by sight Bishop Jim Jones have identified him among the dead,

as well as his wife and children.

Q How many children -- do you know?

A I do not have a number of children.

Q Thank you.

A Since we do not have that from an American source, I can only tell you that is what has been reported to us by the Guyanese authorities. I gather they have also made an announcement of that in Guyana. They have told us that some of their people on the ground have known this individual, have worked with him and met him in the past, and have made an identification. We will be working with them, of course, in various technical ways of a positive identification when our people are equipped to do that and their people are on the ground there.

The other piece of information which they have passed back in the same way is that they say the latest actual count which the Guyanese police on the ground in Jonestown have of the bodies that they've identified -- they found thus far -- is 363. That is not presented to us as a definitive count. That is the count as of this afternoon that they had sent back through their channels. Of course, they may find additional bodies as they pursue their search of the area.

The other information which I can pass on to you deals with the movement of the bodies of the dead Americans out of Georgetown. I can give you what is at this point only a rough schedule. Until we actually get planes airborne that will not be completely definitive. But we now anticipate that about 8 o'clock our time -- local time here -- C-141 will take off from Georgetown with the bodies of Congressman Ryan and of the three news persons. That plane will fly directly to Charleston, South Carolina, to the air base there. That's approximately a six-hour flight.

In Charleston, the Congressman's body, which is being accompanied by one of his staff aides, will be transferred to another aircraft and taken directly to the West Coast of San Francisco. It is the present estimate that that will be a fairly quick turnaround, an hour or two. The Congressman's body will, therefore, be in San Francisco in the course of tomorrow morning.

We will have to wait until the first plane becomes airborne and that situation then becomes more definitely under our control.

Q What about the other dead Americans that will not be transferred?

A There is one other dead American -- the member of the other Peoples Temple who was killed in the shooting at the airport. That body is not being moved at this time due to difficulties in identification and notifying next of kin.

Q You only mentioned -- or did I mishear you -- transferring the Congressman's body.

Q What about the NBC crew?

A It is our present thought-we we would probably transfer the other bodies of people who had been resident on the West Coast in the same way to the same plane.

Q Oh.

A That is not yet confirmed with next of kin, so I do not want to give that to you as a definitive statement. But that would be the most probably situation -- which is that all the bodies which are to go to the West Coast would be moved on the same aircraft from Charleston to the West Coast.

We have some technical problems in terms of state of some of these remains, which could introduce a complication into that; but that is our present thinking.

Q What is the name of the Air Force base at

at Charleston, please? Do you have that?

A I do not know the name of the Air Force base at Charleston. Is there anybody that knows that offhand?

Q Do you have any further information about the way these people died?

A The people in Jonestown you're referring to?

Q Yes.

A We do not have anything that's firm. However, we do have -- I said this morning that the report indicated that there were no signs of external trauma. The later reports suggested that there are some people who apparently have died from gunshot wounds. What the breakdown is, we have no information; but there has been some talk among the Guyanese officials of two categories -- one killed by gunfire, and the others without external wounds.

Q Mr. Bushnell, do you have any better handle now on what's happening to people who apparently scattered into the bush -- whether they're turning up back at Jonestown, whether more of them are still straggling in -- or maybe what kind of numbers are now showing up?

A We do not have any information from Jonestown

about people coming back in there. We know that there are some people who have appeared at police posts around the area. There are a few who have appeared in Georgetown. How many more there may be in the bush -- when we'll get some identification of them coming out -- there are some police posts that have no radio communication. There may be people that have come out to those police posts; we would not yet know it. So until we get our communications with our own people there and are able to facilitate the transportation of the Guyanese themselves when we get some helicopters there tomorrow, we don't have a very good reading on that.

Q The helicopters aren't going in until tomorrow?

A Unfortunately, we had hoped earlier today to have the first two helicopters delivered in the evening tonight, assembled overnight so they would be operational first thing in the morning. That has been delayed for technical reasons. We have to fly in a crane to assemble them. And so the plane, both with the helicopters and another plane with the crane, will be arriving early tomorrow morning. The latest estimate that I have

from Defense is that the first two helicopters will be operational tomorrow afternoon.

Q I wanted to see, if I could, if there's anything further you wanted to say about how much the Congressman was made aware or warned about the trip because his aide -- and I don't know if you knew about these statements before your earlier briefing, but let me just read them to you. There's just a couple of statements. See if you want to add anything on that subject. This is Holsinger, and he said that the State Department apparently gave the Congressman no warning of danger. "The only thing of which I'm aware is they cautioned us only about the inadequacy of accommodations" for the party of aides.

Also Holsinger said there were indications from State Department officials that they "considered this to be a benign settlement." But he said Ryan was warned of a possible threat to his safety by interviews with defectors from the commune.

Do you want to address that or have you said all you wanted to say at the earlier briefing?

A I at this point don't want to try to get into endless detail on what was said in various



meetings with the Congressman and with members of his staff, which began with Assistant Secretary Vaky back in September, which have been carried forward in a number of separate interviews. It was recalled to me by a person who participated in the first briefing.

I think it was on September 15th, the middle of September, that it was suggested in that first meeting even that the Congressman might want to take a clinical psychiatrist with him on his group -- given problems that had been identified.

There were other suggestions and comments that have been made to the Congressman and to his staff during this period which I think suggested an element of risk in this enterprise -- not necessarily that we thought that this was a group that would have done anything to him necessarily. We did point out that he would be able to visit the group, in our view, only with the permission of the People's Temple and that we could not expect the Guyanese Government to enforce, if you will, a visit by someone which the People's Temple did not welcome -- since it was their private property and the Guyanese Government would respect that.

Q Mr. Bushnell, my notes reflect your saying earlier, at your earlier briefing, that over the last year there were many conversations. Are you saying now the first conversation was only two months ago?

A The first conversation about this visit. There have been conversations over the last year about the situation of the People's Temple --

Q I see.

A -- in Guyana there with the Congressman and with his staff. To my knowledge the first time that we had a conversation about him visiting the colony was in mid-September.

Q Right.

A There have been several conversations with him and a large number with his staff people between mid-September and now. We did arrange for a comprehensive briefing by our Legal people on the legal situation. We arranged for a comprehensive briefing by our Consular people. Some of these were for his staff; some were for him. I don't have an exact sorting out of that, of all that we knew -- information that we had about the

People's Temple and the problems that we anticipated, including the problem that they might refuse to receive him.

Q Is it the proper inference that the clinical psychologist would help the Congressman and his people approach the sect people? I forgot the way you said State Department people approached them -- with some circumspection or something? Is that the point of the clinical psychologist -- he would know how to deal with people like this and maybe Congressman Ryan wouldn't otherwise? I don't get the point.

A I would think that the point would be that as a technical specialist he would be able to advise the Congressman and his party of potential analysis in his field of competence, which would be a field probably not otherwise present on the Congressional delegation.

Yes.

Q Mr. Bushnell, my publication got information that this cult was involved in drug-running. Now, Jonestown does sit in the marijuana-planting center of the country and generally religious cults throughout the Caribbean are connected to drug usage, if not drug-smuggling. Are you

looking at this angle? Do you have anything on it?

A We do not have anything on it. This was not something that came to the attention of our Consular Officers when they visited. However, I would have no basis, certainly, to make a firm denial of any sort other than the facts that you point out about the area and the general situation are true. That is not to say that we have any information that indicated that this particular settlement was involved in drugs in any way.

Q Mr. Bushnell, this morning, sir --  
this morning --

Q Excuse me. I want to follow that up.

Do you have any plans to question Jerry Brown about his knowledge about this group?

A Governor Brown, you're referring to?

Q Yes.

A We have been in touch with Governor Brown and have been exchanging information with him in the course of today -- personally with him -- and in the course of the weekend with his staff.

Q Will any of that kind of material be made

public?

A I would myself not have any plans to make that public. I think it would be up to his office if he wished to make it public. Essentially, we have been informing them of what we knew was going on -- the same as I've been informing you.

Q Has he provided any information to you that has been useful to you?

A He has provided some information of a background nature available to him about the People's Temple in California, yes.

Q Mr. Bushnell, do you know how Lane and Garry got from Jonestown to Georgetown and do you know whether any other Americans who were in the Ryan traveling party who were not accounted for among the dead or injured were also evacuated to Georgetown?

A I do not know how they got to Georgetown from the area. I believe at this point that all the members of the CODEL who left Georgetown and when to Jonestown are accounted for.

Now, those who joined the party for the return trip from Jonestown, since we never had a listing --

Q Right.

A -- and there even seems to be some confusion of exactly how many there were -- may not be fully accounted for.

Q But the 18 of the original group are accounted for?

A It is my understanding that of the number of people who went by aircraft up -- all of them have been accounted for at this time.

Q This morning you said you didn't want to talk about the interview with Lane for privacy reasons or you were still piecing it together or something. Since then Mark Lane has had a news conference down there in which he has detailed having heard a vat or a bathtub full of poison being brought in and actually hearing the gunshots, et cetera. Could you be a little more specific about what you now know from the various interviews as to what took place?

A We still have quite a confusing picture. It's not clear to me because we have various pieces.

It is my understanding, for example, that Mr. Lane did not actually himself see any people being shot or otherwise

killed because it apparently did not start until he was leaving the area of the camp. He heard a number of shots.

We have a number of confusing reports on that basis and until we have more definitive information I think for me to speculate in a way which would probably turn out to be half-truths in one way or another would be counterproductive.

I think as far as what we say from this platform we really have to get more facts before we can try to lay out -- and we'll try to do this as soon as we can -- what we believe happened in Jonestown that led to so many dead.

Q Could we follow up, if I may? How much in conflict and how much at odds are these statements you're getting?

Q Would you forgive those of us who have to file?

A Yes.

Q We had asked Hodding if we might leave, and would you accept our thanks --

A Yes.

Q -- and excuse those of us who have to leave?  
Thank you very much.

Q Could you just say how much in conflict you

think some of those statements are, how much at odds?

Are you getting totally disparate accounts?

A We have accounts which have quite a wide variety of stories. Let me say that the spectrum sort of goes like this. And remember that I'm talking about various reports, some of which reportedly are eye-witnesses -- some of which were not -- most of which have come, all of us here have come, to a second -- even third-hand -- between a situation in which people were lined up in some sort of formation and to poison -- other stories which involve essentially the machine-gunning and shooting-down of people.

Now, there's a wide spectrum of this. It is possible, of course, that some of both happened. And until we can sort this out, until we have a better reading of the nature of the bodies and the situation indicating how they died and so forth, we really are not in a position to say in any definitive sort of way what happened there.

I have to repeat that our people have not yet been able to report to us from the site. And so all we have is scattered reports coming back from the police on the site very indirectly to us.



Q I have a technical question.

Once you establish this link through the Panama Canal Zone, will you report here to us before the Guyanese Government does in Georgetown because obviously you are going to have a direct line to Georgetown then?

A It is not my intention to be in the business of trying to report first. As we get information which we feel is confirmed from our people on the site we will make every effort to pass it on promptly to the press in this country. Whether that turns out to be quicker than it is announced in Georgetown or not, I don't know. I understand that a number of press persons have managed to get on aircraft going to the Jonestown area today and presumably will have themselves been able to get into the vicinity if not into the actual site. When they will have an opportunity for filing, I have no idea.

Q Since your last Briefing has the Guyanese Government requested any further technical or military assistance and is any being provided other than the

helicopters you referred to and the communications equipment?

A Since my last Briefing they have made only a couple of requests for technical sort of equipment for exploring the area beyond helicopters and radio communications and the provision of a light plane, as well as other transport. We may even be able eventually to use C-130s to an air strip not too far from the area, 35 miles from the area.

We are providing a number of equipment items, such as torches, airfield lights, sleeping bags, these sorts of things which there is a non-availability in the security forces of Guyana.

Remember Guyana is quite a poor country, one of the poorer countries in this hemisphere. They don't have a lot of modern equipment for their police and security forces. So that, the operation that they have been mounting in this situation has strained their resources very substantially and we are trying to provide those things that are needed so that their police forces can carry out their role in this area, investigative role, and also encourage any people who may be out in

the bush to come in and be given a supper.

Q Just to follow-up, can I ask if that is all of a non-military or non-weapon type of --

A We are not providing anything that would be lethal that you would use to shoot with, that sort of thing. Many of the items we are providing are technically legal, technically military items, that we will take out of a military warehouse. But they do not have a lethal purpose. They have a support purpose.

Q Can you give us some further information on the relationship between the Peoples Temple and the Guyanese Government?

A A moment ago you said that you told the Congressman that the Government would respect the fact that this was their private property.

What arrangement did this group initially make with the Government to buy this and what sort of relationship did they have and what kind of sanction did they have to do what they did?

A I do not know and I don't know of anybody here in Washington, or perhaps even in our Embassy, that

knows the details; whether the land there was bought, leased or what have you.

There was an arrangement between the Peoples Temple and the Guyanese Government which allowed them either the ownership or the use of the land where they were and of certain supply facilities, the use of short wave radio. These sorts of things had all been worked out with the Guyanese Government.

I think I might try to put this in a little broader perspective. In Guyana you have a wide variety of religions, you have a very mixed population. As you may know, ethnically roughly half the population is black, roughly half is Hindu and descended from East Indian population. It is an area which has long had a great variety of religions and of groups and that this has been respected over the years. Therefore, not just in terms of the Peoples Temple operation, but in terms of the general policy of the Guyanese Government was to try to be supportive of various religious groups provided that they operated within the laws of the country and did not create problems. That was their own feeling on this.

I can remember over a year ago I had a conversation myself with the Foreign Minister of Guyana who recognized that there were a number of problems where cases such as the custody cases I mentioned this morning were avoiding the Guyanese courts and were a problem. But he pointed out to me the long tradition of the Guyanese Government in respecting religious groups and religious freedom and they looked at this essentially in that line and that is the way they considered it and were in that sense supportive of not interfering in the activities of the Peoples Temple so long as it complied with the laws of the land.

Q Mr. Bushnell, do you know of a May 10th letter from 57 parents and relatives of the people who were allegedly being held prisoner at Jonestown in which they claimed to give you affidavits documenting their barbed wire fences, close surveillance, T.V. sets at Jonestown, to watch the people, censored mail and all sorts of problems?

A This letter was sent on the 10th of May to the Secretary, but on the 19th of May a copy went to the Secretary, Mr. Christopher, Mr. Bennett, Patricia Derian,

Mr. Carter.

A I am aware of that letter. If I looked at it earlier, I have not looked at it now.

Let me in relation to that point out one additional figure which I have gotten between our Briefings today, and that is, that over 75 Temple members have been talked to by our Consular Officers over the last year. Not one confirmed any of the allegations of mistreatment. The Consular Officer --

Q Wait.

When you say "the allegations of mistreatment", the allegations contained in that letter?

A Not necessarily just in that letter. There have been other communications that we have received of various sorts which have argued that.

Q These are 75 people about whom relatives or somebody had made complaints.

A I cannot say. Most of them were ones where there had been a complaint. There may be included in that some others that they talked to for reasons obscure.

Q Before you go on, you are aware that this

letter also mentions a suicide pact that they say these people were forced into?

A I do not recall that it mentions it, but if you have a copy of the letter, I assume that it does.

Q Well, I still don't understand --

A I don't understand. What is the thrust of your question?

Q The thrust of my question is: Did the Department reply or what did the Department do after it received this letter?

MR. CARTER: John, let me answer that.

We are looking now, as far as replies go --

Q Hodding, come on. Up there.

MR. CARTER: I mean we are looking as far as replies go and we are trying to find that information out.

Q Sir, I am not quite sure I follow --

Q Wait. I will follow-up my own. Thank you.

In other words, you know of this letter, but you have no idea what became of it.

If I put what you say and what Mr. Carter says

together --

A Let me say that we have received a substantial volume of mail contending in one way or the other that somebody, ~~some~~ family members generally, some acquaintance, was in some way or other being abused -- let me put it that way because this covers a wide spectrum of accusations -- in Jonestown. We have forwarded all of these or the information contained in them to our Embassy in Jonestown. The Consular Officer has examined these. He has talked to the people about whom these had been made.

As we say, he has talked to 75. And in these conversations, which have been in most cases personal and private meetings, none have confirmed either specific allegations made through mail that we received or indicated that there was some other abuse that was involved.

C Sir, you seem to answer these allegations by saying that you talked to people individually and they didn't express any interest about coming out. But if any of those allegations happened to be true, if passports were being seized, if there were actual threats against



potential defectors, threats on their lives, is merely walking into a camp and getting a guy off in a room by himself and saying do you want to leave, is that adequate investigation of the complaint? Wouldn't there be a built-in fear on that person's part if, as you said this morning, none of your people were in a position to put their arm around him and say do you want to come out with me?

A Let me make clear that I did not say that we asked the question did he want to leave. We asked a series of questions. They could have volunteered that.

In most cases when they came to the Consular officer they had their passport. It was in their physical possession. Often there was a passport action required.

Certainly I think if we speculate a little bit that in a number of individual cases one would think that was true.

I must say that I am impressed personally by the fact that over 75 interviews with different people not one indicated this sort of concern. I could see how

some might be concerned, but it seems to me that this was a record which did not suggest that much concern.

Now, I am not trying to propose that the conditions -- I do not know what the conditions in that camp were -- nor is it the business of the U.S. Government and our Consular Corps around the world to necessarily pass on the conditions in which American citizens live. I am sure that we have American citizens all over the world who are living under conditions of one sort or another which various of their relatives in this country strongly disapprove of. And the Consular Corps really cannot be in the business of trying to police that on behalf of the parents.

What we were doing: These people were American citizens as much as the people who have complained about it. We were trying to give them as an American citizen an opportunity to let the U.S. Government know if they thought they had a problem which they might need their help on and they did not let us know that.

Q You are saying that that private questioning of individuals you felt to be examination enough of the

problem or potential problem?

A I think in many cases our Consular Officers want further than under other circumstances around the world they could go in raising this sort of question.

I have to repeat that we cannot expect our Consular Officers to go into great depth with American citizens as to whether they have any problems. They can give an opportunity for American citizens to complain to them essentially. And I will tell you a lot of American citizens around the world do complain to Consular Officers.

Q Did they report any signs of emotional aberrations or instability?

Was there anything unusual at all about any of the 75 reported back by the Consular Officers?

A Sure.

I mean after all here we have people that have decided to go down and live in the jungles of Guyana. I suppose that is not the most normal thing. There were certain hardships and so forth that one would have to associate with that and make certain allowances for.

So, in that sense I would certainly not say they reported that they were living a normal Bronx life. (Laughter.)

Q Mr. Bushnell, was there any attempt when State was notified or told by relatives of a mass suicide pact to notify Guyana officials and investigate that further?

A To my knowledge there was not. We had heard reports of a suicide pact. I am sure that people that were concerned with this in this country had heard these reports. I don't even know that there was any attempt by the Peoples Temple to keep this quiet.

On the other hand, I am not sure what the proper action of U.S. officials are. If American citizens want to enter into a suicide pact, I myself don't particularly approve of that, but as I am an American citizen American officials are supposed to tell American citizens they can't do that. Certainly we didn't have much facility to do that, particularly given the position in Guyana, under whose law they were operating being relatively open to various religious groups of all sorts.

Q Mr. Bushnell, just also rumbling around with this question of what a Consular Officer feels free to do. In most of these cases there was a complaint from some relative presumably.

Would a Consular Officer routinely go in and sit down with a person at Jonestown and say your mother or your brother or your sister or whomever says you are being abused here, what do you have to say about that, do you have any complaints?

That might be a routine kind of question, but would they go that far?

A It is my understanding that what they would usually do is to say that we have heard from your family member, whoever it might be, they seem to be very concerned about you. They would then let the conversation go where it may. That person might say: Well, gee, it has been two months since I have written. Maybe I better write pretty soon. Or that is too bad. Whatever they say they would explore the conversation.

They are not in the business of conducting a 5th degree examination. They have to sort of provide the opening and hear what the person says and that really

is the way that this is being conducted.

Let me correct right now one thing that I said this morning which I found in one question that I took this morning, which was the times of the visits. I had thought that we had visited monthly. There are a number of months that we didn't visit.

In 1978 a Consular Officer visited in January, February, May and November. The last visit was on November 7th.

That is the answer to the question that I took this morning. I am sorry that I was not strictly correct when I said that we made about monthly visits. That is only four visits thus far this year, unless you count the visit of the DCM who, of course, was with the Congressional party last Friday-Saturday.

But I exclude that. This was Consular for Consular purposes, these four visits in 1978.

Q What was it that triggerred the implementation of the suicide pact? Have you established that yet? Do you know what the immediate cause was?

A I have no official firm knowledge that there was a suicide pact or that it was implemented.

Q Of the homicides.

A What we know is that there are a large number of people dead. Until we know more, we will not know what the scenario was and I don't want to speculate further on that.

Q Are there other religious groups either in South America or anyplace else, to your knowledge, that you get letters about and have to send Consular members in to talk to relatives the same way as they did with this group?

A Yes.

This is -- I am not saying it is a common problem, but there are other situations where we have a similar or analogous problem. I don't want to get into giving a list of these. I think we would have problems with that.

But there are other problems of an analogous sort that we have in Latin America and for that matter elsewhere.

Q Thank you.

(At 5:15 the Briefing concluded.)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TRANSCRIPT OF THE SPECIAL BRIEFING  
ON THE GUYANA SITUATION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1978  
12:15 P.M.

(ON THE RECORD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

MR. BUSHNELL: I guess I should first bring date on what we have learned and what has been in Guyana since we last met yesterday after-

Last evening following his return to Jonestown from spending the day up country in Jonestown with the Guyanese police and security forces, Mr. Brooks, who is normally our Deputy Chief of Mission in Guyana but who is temporarily in Guyana as the Acting DCM since our DCM there was wounded on Saturday --

Q Could you spell it?

A D-I-K-O-S, I believe.

Q E-O-S.

A E-O-S.

-- "gave me a briefing by phone of what he had observed, and I might pass the key elements of that on to you.

At the time that he left just at dark from Jonestown last night they had counted 405 bodies. I know that there are some reports in the press that have slightly different numbers. I think that is not a particularly firm count. Through the course of the afternoon they were still finding additional bodies, and presumably the figure will increase as they are able to explore the area more thoroughly.

We don't have any indication and I don't want to suggest that there will be a major increase, but that is still a situation which is not fully resolved.

Of these bodies roughly a quarter, about 100, were children.



The overwhelming majority have no external signs of trauma and the presumption and the reports were that these people died of poison. A small number, including the leader, Bishop Jones, there were bullet shot wounds and that was the apparent cause of death.

They had not, I should stress, performed autopsies or arrived at any definitive sort of conclusion on that element. That is work that is continuing at this time.

In addition, during the course of the day yesterday fourteen residents of Jonestown came in from the jungle. People who had fled into the jungle Saturday when these events Saturday afternoon happened. They came back into Jonestown either completely on their own volition and their own motivation or because the Guyanese police had reached them somewhere in the surrounding area and had helped them back in.

Of the fourteen, four were children, two of the children were wounded and were evacuated last night to Georgetown. The preliminary indication is that the wounds are not serious.

The survivors who came back in, together with some residents of the area and the police, have managed thus far to give at least a preliminary identification to about half of the deceased on the ground there in Jonestown.

We are continuing to move in as rapidly as we can our support for the Guyanese police in their efforts on all the aspects of this situation. However, it will be tomorrow morning before we have in the full amounts of equipment, particularly helicopters that we hope to provide. So we are still rather light on the ground.

At first daylight this morning a light plane arrived from Panama that will be used to shuttle our people from Georgetown up-country. Through the course of the morning three or four additional aircraft have arrived with a crane to assemble helicopters with two helicopters on board. It will take us a few hours to get them operational.

During the next 24 hours additional helicopters will be flown in disassembled. We now have airborne over the Caribbean three HH-53 helicopters. These are the great big Chinook helicopters. They have airborne refueling capacity, and they will be arriving at first light tomorrow morning.

It is a twenty-hour flight from Florida Elgin Air Force Base, which they have departed from, to Georgetown.

Until we get particularly these heavy helicopters on the ground, the actual transport ability in Guyana is very severely limited. There are only a few light planes available for moving people up-country or potentially for bringing bodies out of the area. So there has not yet been any attempt to move bodies, and I will come to that situation in a minute.

Because of the shortage of transportation and the weight of the radio equipment which we had hoped to move to Jonestown yesterday, that was not moved in order to give priority to moving up-country people that were particularly Guyanese police officials who were needed in Jonestown. As soon as we get our helicopters operating, and perhaps even before, we will have that moved up, which will improve our communications.

We have a Consular Officer who has stayed in Jonestown overnight. We have additional Consular Officers who have moved up there this morning and who will be working with the Guyanese in the identification, in the inventorying and controlling the personal effects of the individuals and other normal consular functions.

The Guyanese security officials have continued to pursue their investigation of this matter. A small number of people have been detained. They have, of course, interviewed, as I am sure members of the press have judging by the coverage today, the survivors, both those in Georgetown and those on the scene in Jonestown.

Q Has anyone been arrested by the Guyanese?

A There are some people who have been detained. I believe in their system that the first step until a court actually hands down a formal charge they are not arrested and charged with a particular crime. But they have been detained for investigation in connection with both the series of incidents on the ground and with the incidents at Jonestown itself.

Q Do you know the number?

A Before I turn to questions, let me go on and deal with one additional situation here.

4

We have on the basis of the reports which we have received from our people on the ground -- we have an obviously rather appalling situation. Remembering that this is a tropical climate, we have bodies which have now been out in the open in the sun and the rain. There have continued to be very strong rain showers every day for over 72 hours. There are major problems with insects and the bodies are already becoming very hard to identify.

Because of this we have reviewed this situation and have authorized our Ambassador in connection with the Guyanese authorities that if the Guyanese authorities recommend on the basis of the health conditions in Jonestown -- and I would say that it looks as though they may be doing that -- they may, in fact, as of this moment already have done it -- that they may begin to inter these bodies locally.

Prior to burial every effort is and will be made to positively identify all the dead and to arrange for a proper, decent burial and grave site with individual markers.

As I said, about half the victims have so far been identified.

This would not have been, if we had had our choice, the route that I think we would have followed, but at this point the course of events and the fact that we have very limited transportation forces us into it.

Moreover, the fact that some people, including children, have been coming out of the jungle suggests the possibility at least that we may have survivors who have gone through a very harrowing experience, who are very much afraid, and are still in the jungle; and we feel that we need to give the first priority with the available transportation to the search and rescue operation for these people who we would hope would still be alive, both in terms of using heavy-lift capacity to move additional Guyanese people into the area and to support them and in terms of using the light choppers, some of which will be equipped with loud speakers and so forth for the actual search and rescue operation.

So that, on the one hand, we have decided that the course of events forces us to give that priority and the health situation leaves us no choice but to go along with a decision of the Guyanese authorities to begin interring these people in the site.

We will make every effort to identify them. We do have airborne at this moment a DOD, Department of Defense team, called a Graves Identification Unit, people who are experienced with identification and the handling of bodies, who will be moved into Jonestown as quickly as possible to assist the Guyanese with this task.

I think that essentially completes the update of the situation, and I can turn to questions.

Q Can we have a list of the casualties that have been identified, of the people that have been identified?

A We will as we get this information. Our Consular people in the task force have this available. We will not provide under the Privacy Act these lists to the press. Those who have friends and relatives have been calling in, will continue to call in. We will make every effort to notify next of kin, but it is not appropriate for us to put this out certainly until we have been able to notify the next of kin very widely and there are some problems in locating some next of kin in some cases.

But we are notifying as we get the information both the families of survivors and of deceased, as we get that information.

Q Mr. Bushnell, could you tell me whether it is apparent yet whether Mr. Jones' bullet wounds were self-inflicted or not?

A I think before I say anything on that I should allow the medical examiners to make their examination. Some people who have been in the area have suggested that it is. But until there is actually an official determination on that, I would only say that the indications from the people on the ground certainly suggest that that is a possibility; that it is not ruled out.

Q What the other question I had is how quickly will the gravediggers be there or the grave people? When are they expected to arrive?

A The first members of that team will be arriving in Georgetown late this afternoon or early this evening and will be moved as soon as we can up to Jonestown. The remainder will be in over the course of the night.

Q What information do you have from the Guyanese police about the possibility of murders occurring in the bush, those who escaped being shot?

A At this point we have no information from the Guyanese police. They have not, to my knowledge anyway, identified any bodies in the bush who are shot. That is not to say that they have completed their work on this. What we will find as that continues is uncertain.

But at this point we do not have a report from them that would indicate that there are people who have been shot in the bush.

Q A two-part question:

Since there are reports that Guyana received sixty letters of recommendations that they admit the Reverend Jim Jones to Guyana, these letters coming from a number of prominent Democrats, including the First Lady and the Vice President, will the Carter Administration apologize to Guyana for recommending this homicidal maniac, or do you people feel no responsibility in this regard?

A I must say that there seems to have been or there was an immense amount of mail of all sorts on all sides of the issue of the Peoples Temple in Guyana.

When the Peoples Temple went to Guyana they were asked, as I think we would find normal under the laws of most countries, under the laws of Guyana, to provide indications of their history, what they were about. They provided a large number of letters of recommendation, which I gather are a part of the official record available to the public in Guyana, as a basis for making their settlement in that country.

I don't think it is appropriate from the State Department podium to make any particular comment on any of the specific letters, some of which I gather members of the press have now seen in the public records of Guyana.

Q Could I follow that up, sir, by citing contrary to reports in Washington's daily newspapers, that Jones was first exposed in 1971. Here are three page-one stories in the San Francisco Examiner of September of 1972 which expose Jones as having been

investigated by State authorities in Indiana, having armed his followers with 357 Magnums, having claimed to resurrect the dead, 43 cases, and having been identified in print and orally as divine.

My question is: If Mrs. Carter and Mr. Mondale were ignorant of this, does the Carter Administration believe that the California Democrats, such as Mosconi and Congressman Burton, were also innocent of this information?

A I have no way to answer that question, as you know, and don't want to get into a discussion of that aspect. I think it is the normal procedure when Governments go overseas -- when groups such as the Peoples Temple go overseas, they present their case to the local government. That is a matter largely between them and the local government, not between government-to-government basis.

Q When they have the Vice President of the United States endorsing them? You think that is a personal matter, sir, and no responsibility

In other words, you don't feel, as a member of the Carter Administration, any responsibility for having endorsed this man?

A For having endorsed this many in which way?

Q Yes.

The Vice President of the United States, Walter Mondale, wrote a letter of endorsement. So did Mrs. Jimmy Carter. That is fairly high up in the Carter Administration. They endorsed this guy, despite the fact that he had been exposed in San Francisco and in Minneapolis.

A Well, I think this is a question you would have to raise with them.

Q I will.

A I think it is clear from what you are saying that these letters were not written while they are in their present positions. These are letters that were written at some time in the past.

Q When?

A I would say that from the State Department that we have had a very large amount of mail on both sides of the issue, as we have discussed in previous Press Conferences here. We have had a lot of mail that has been critical of the Peoples Temple. We have had an even larger amount of mail which has had very good things to say about the Peoples Temple and, in fact, has said explicitly that many of the allegations being made were not true.

Q Mr. Bushnell, on this subject of correspondence, have you been able to find out yet what reply the State Department made to the May 10 letter from a number of parents or to the April 19 letters?

A I have now read the letter that you referred to yesterday in which it was asked that we communicate certain concerns of a number of parents to the Prime Minister of Guyana. I have confirmed that we did communicate those concerns, in fact, by passing a copy of that letter to the Government of Guyana.

I have not yet -- actually I have asked my people to find out, and they have not yet found the actual response saying that we had done that. I assume that that request was made of us. The request was carried out. And a letter was sent saying so, although I have not found a copy of that in the files yet.

Q A follow-up please.

You haven't found the response any of those State Department officials made to those parents though; is that correct?

A The request which we received was to pass to the Government of Guyana a memo, as I recall it, a document from a number of concerned parents. We did what was requested in that. We passed that to the Government of Guyana.

It was also asked in the letter that when we had done so that we let them know. I believe that that was done, but I have not yet found a copy of the letter or letters in which it is said that we have done that.

Q Did we pass it without comment, sir, without American State Department comment?

A I believe that when we passed this letter we explained what it was, how it came to our attention, and indicated what generally was the nature of the people that had signed that letter.

Q One clarification.

You have about 200 bodies identified. You will begin burying them and those graves will be identified. This is at the settlement site.

Will those victims later be disinterred and returned to the United States at no cost to the next of kin?

A Well, of course, we are still in the initial stages of this and I think we will have to sort some of these things out later. It would be my general understanding that the law of Guyana would permit after a certain period the disinterment of these people; that there is no facility, no financing available for the U.S. Government for that. It would have to be at private expense.

Q Do you have an estimate of the number of people who may have fled who survived who were out there in the jungle?

A We do not have any estimate of that. We did find -- the Guyanese police found a group of something between 800 and 900 passports in a trunk in Jonestown, presumably since the policy in the settlements seem to be to turn in the passports for central holding. These presumably represented passports of people that were there, at least there at one time.

A number of these passports are quite old. They are the old style passports that haven't been issued for a while. So I am not sure until we have done more work and looked through them. There may be duplication in these passports. There may be passports there of people that left the colony a long time ago.

So that, we do not have any number of how many were there and, therefore, how many are unaccounted for.

The fact that a number of people ran into the jungle, some of those people, a small number, have now come back, suggest that there still may be some at least people in the jungle and that is why we feel that the highest priority, because of the very rugged conditions which they are suffering under, is to use our resources and the Guyanese police resources in order to try to reach these people and bring them out.

Q Mr. Bushnell, do you have a figure on the total number of visits by Consular Officers since this began, since the Department's attention was called to this feeling on the part of their relatives here?



Can you tell us how many such visits by Consular Officers took place? And do you have any explanation for the fact that apparently they never discovered anyone who wanted to leave?

A Let me go into that a little bit.

As I said yesterday, we have made four Consular visits in 1978. There were some additional visits made in '77.

Q Four in 1977?

A Four in 1978. I gave the months of that in the briefing yesterday afternoon.

I did now talk to the officer who made some of these visits and given the interest in this, I think I might explain a little bit more about what he has told me because I think it is germane to the questions that some of you are asking.

I asked him what were the physical circumstances of these private interviews. He tells me that he conducted these private interviews in an open field at a distance from any buildings and with unimpeded vision in all directions. Just the Consular Officer and the individual.

I asked him were these interviews conducted at the request of the Consular Officer or that of the person interviewed. He said that in every case they were conducted at the request of the Consular Officer based on the request from friends and relatives, such as through the letters which have been mentioned here.

I asked did the interviewee, the person being interviewed, complain of or support allegations of physical, mental or sexual abuse by the Reverend Jones or other members of the Peoples Temple. In all cases the answer was "no".

I asked did any of those interviewed indicate a desire to escape from or otherwise leave Jonestown. The answer is "no". All denied that they were being held against their will or abused in any way.

I told him that I had said to you yesterday that it wasn't really proper for a Consular Officer to put his arm around somebody and escort them off the property. He said, well, he had come fairly close to that

because he had said to many of these people, particularly where friends and relatives had said they were being held against their will, that if they wanted to leave he was prepared to take them then from that field, proceed to his car at the edge of the wheat field in which there was a Guyanese official and leave. None indicated any interest in taking him up on that offer.

This is over some 40 to 50 interviews of this nature conducted over the past year.

Q You said 75.

A There were 75 interviews conducted. Forty to fifty were conducted in this mode in the field. Others were conducted in the facility.

Q Did he make any comment as to the mental state of those people, whether they looked drugged or whether they looked undernourished, or whether they looked afraid?

A He indicated that the general regime that there was a lot of menial work, hard work to be done in a tropical climate which the members of this group participated in, but he did not sense that this, that what they were doing was beyond the abilities of the people that were involved in it. I did not ask him specifically if they looked fearful or afraid. I think the general conditions under which he conducted this interview would have tended to have offset fear to the maximum extent that we possibly could have done so. In the back of the room -- give them a chance.

Q I just wanted to get back to the point I raised yesterday because we continue to get information through diplomatic sources from Georgetown that this group is involved in marijuana smuggling. It is our information, again from sources very well placed, that this was part of a larger operation to push Guyana towards actually cultivating marijuana as a cash crop to help them in their debt situation. I'm wondering if since yesterday you have anything further on that?

A I don't have any further information. Our people who have been in the area have not identified any fields of marijuana. I think that we'll have more information once we have more people who travel more widely in the area. But we, at this point, do not have any information indicating that.

Q Mr. Bushnell, why did they take up this mode of going out to the field to interview people? Was it first that they did it in the compound, and for some reason the Consular Officer felt they had to do it out in the field?

A My understanding of this is that some of the letters, at least, received by the State Department or by the Embassy itself indicated that the nature of the pressure on the people was such that they would not, that they would be afraid to be frank with the consular officer, and that therefore, he should do what he could in order to give them a chance to be frank and a chance to leave, and that is the reason that he adopted, with the full agreement of the authorities in Jonestown, this mode of operation.

Q Mr. Bushnell, I believe I heard you refer to the central figure here as "Bishop" Jones. I wrote it down; I think it's in the transcript. In this connection, I talked yesterday with the headquarters of the Disciples of Christ, Christian Church, in Indianapolis. They have 1.3 million members and is a member of the National Council of Churches. They confirmed that the Reverend Jim Jones is still a clergyman of this large denomination and has not been unfrocked and so forth, and they have no bishops.

I was wondering, has he been consecrated in another denomination or do you have information that makes him a bishop or was that just your terminology or what? Why is he a bishop?

A Various people have referred to him as Bishop Jones, and I guess that I referred to him at some time as that. I tried to refer to him basically as Reverend Jones. I think that is probably the more correct. I don't have any particular evidence that he is a bishop.

Q All right. Thank you.

Q Mr. Bushnell, when the letter was sent to the Guyanese Government from the parents of the Peoples Temple follower who wanted to get their relative out of there, did this government make any recommendations as to how the Guyanese authorities might pursue the matter?

A I don't believe that this government, that the U.S. Government made any recommendations, no. I think that there was an exchange of information bet-

ween our consular officer and between various Guyanese officials of the area and who visited the area in terms of the situation. And as I have said, there was no evidence ~~that~~ that has ever been identified by any official American there that there was any violation or any apparent violation of any law of Guyana along the lines of the accusations in this letter.

Q Going back to your meeting with the consular officer, did he tell you whether he ever met with Jones and did he ever report back to the Embassy that there was something which wasn't quite right with this colony, or did he ever make any comment about it at all?

A He certainly met with Reverend Jones. I assume that when the Reverend Jones was there -- I don't know that he met with every one of the four cases of the visits this year, but if the Reverend Jones was there, I assume he met with him. He was the acknowledged leader of that group.

As I said yesterday, the Guyanese tradition -- and I think our own tradition -- allows a considerable flexibility to religious organizations, and everybody looked at this, essentially, as a religious organization, and I think we were all reluctant to question the beliefs and practices of other religious organizations, some of which very few of us understand. But that is not considered to be an appropriate line of inquiry for State Department officers so long as they are within the bounds of the laws of our country and of other countries.

Q Mr. Bushnell, it was suggested in some of the press accounts this morning that the large number of firearms that the encampment had, the armed guards had, may have been in violation of Guyanese law. Can you confirm that, first? And, second, do you have any information whether they smuggled firearms in or do you have any information as to how they got all those firearms in there?

A I don't have any firm information on this. It was, of course, not obvious to our people visiting Jonestown that they had large numbers of firearms. There are laws in Guyana governing firearms. On the other hand, this is a pretty rugged area, and I think it is quite ordinary and certainly permitted for people to have weapons.

Q Including automatic weapons?

A I do not know what the situation is on automatic weapons, but certainly shot guns and weapons like that are widely held and are permitted. At least, those weapons were common as well. It has only been since people have gotten into the camp that they have identified perhaps the availability of, the presence there of automatic weapons, and even at that, I don't have any details on, although I have seen some reports indicating that there were automatic weapons there.

Q Mr. Bushnell, can you tell me why yesterday you didn't ask the consular officer who made the visits in 1978 for his personal impressions of the 40 or 50 interviews he made in the field, given that you had complaints from relatives, and yet the interviews revealed no complaints whatever -- why you felt it wasn't pertinent?

A I did ask him for his personal impressions, and he noted such things as that the colony had made a lot of progress, that they had built buildings, they had expanded, they seemed to be going ahead, that there seemed to be a lot of spirit in the colony. I think that those sorts of personal impressions he made and he had communicated in the official communications to Washington.

Q I mean the personal -- the people he interviewed. I don't mean his impressions of Jonestown; I mean the people that he interviewed. I presume he had a logical reason for interviewing the people that he did.

A Yes. As I said, he interviewed those people where, either we in the State Department or the Embassy had received letters with accusations that they were being abused or held against their will in some sort of situation which would be against the law, and that he tried to find out in direct, private contact with these people whether they confirmed that this was true, and in no case did any of them confirm that any of the accusations were true.

Q Did he say whether they appeared to be under the influence of --

Q Of what assistance was Mr. Lane to you, or Mr. Gerry, and also was there any special literature or anything of this sort found within the compound?

A I am not aware at this time of any literature. The consular officers in Georgetown did

talk with Mr. Lane and Mr. Gerry. What they told him is covered, I think, by the Privacy Act. I gather those individuals have talked with the press, and I think that you'll have to get their views from them. It's not my responsibility to pass on what they have given us in privileged communication.

Q Mr. Bushnell, is there any reason why we can't have the identity of the consular officers who carried this out, or were all the visits carried out by one consular officer?

A I believe that we have had three consular officers who have made visits at one time or another because of change of personnel and the fact that we have more than one consular officer there. I don't see any reason why we cannot give you that. Most of the consular visits in the first part of this year, the first half of this year, were made by Richard McCoy.

Is that the standard spelling? Does anyone know?

VOICE: M-c C-o-y.

A I think so. I do not know myself off-hand who made the visit on 7 November. I would have to find that. It is one of the consular officers still assigned there.

Q That was the last one, 7 —

Q Was Mr. McCoy the one you talked to on the telephone, then?

A Mr. McCoy is the person that I talked to in person yesterday.

Q John, in view of your emphasis on the religious nature of this group, are you aware of the story in the New York Times yesterday which quoted Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Jim Jones, as saying her husband really didn't believe in religion, but he recognized that this could be used as a substitute to get people out of their superstition and other indications such as Jones' affinity for Cuba, his trip to Cuba, his promotion efforts to get officials in Washington to help Cuba; that this was, basically, not so much a religious movement but rather a political activity on his part under the guise of religion? Do you have any information on that?

A We do not have any information that he engaged in any activities which we would not put in a largely religious character except those that are proper. Just because a person is religious doesn't mean they cannot have political beliefs and activities as well.

Q But are you aware of Mrs. Jones' statement that he didn't believe in religion?

A I am not personally aware of that statement.

Q You didn't read the Times article on it?

A (Inaudible)

Q When your consular officers and the people in the State Department here, one, read the letter from the parents and then read the affidavit that was sent I believe in June of last year from the woman who had left the settlement -- she made an affidavit in San Francisco that was sent here -- was your conclusion based on those visits that there was just nothing to any of this? I mean, what was the posture of the State Department after investigating these things and looking at these things? Did they just feel that these people were wrong?

A That is, basically, the conclusion that we came to. As I said, the officers who visited were never able, from their own observations and investigation, to substantiate the kind of allegations that had been made and were impressed by the physical progress of the community in a short time. Nevertheless, they continued to be uneasy and concerned about the atmosphere they encountered, and by the recurrence of allegations about wrong-doing in the community.

To give you more information on this, we have talked also, the consular officer talked with people who had left the community, after they had left the community. Let me go over those couple of cases that we had. In one case, there was a person who left the community and went to the Guyanese police at Matthews Ridge, which is about 20 miles from the community. The consular officer there went to Matthews Ridge to interview this person together with the Guyanese police officer.

Initially, the individual complained to Guyanese authorities that he had been forced to do hard labor. When interviewed subsequently by the U.S. and



Guyanese authorities, however, he denied this and said he only wanted the Peoples Temple to repatriate him to California. The consular officer passed the request to the Peoples Temple; the Peoples Temple agreed to repatriate the individual to the United States; the Guyanese immigration service officials confirmed that he departed shortly thereafter.

There was another person who left the sect, one person who had been resident in Georgetown. As you know, they had an office in Georgetown -- still do, I guess, as well as the up-country one; she told the Embassy she wished to return to the United States, but the Peoples Temple was holding her passport. The Embassy issued her a new passport and assisted her in making arrangements to leave. An Embassy officer who happened to be traveling on the same flight accompanied her out of the country. So even with people who were already leaving, we did not get any confirmation of the sort of allegations that we were getting in the mail.

And you also recall that we were getting a lot of saying these allegations were not true.

Q Or this second one that you just referred to -- I don't know if you read the Post this morning, but it re-publishes an affidavit from a woman in which she makes a large number of very specific allegations of abuse and also I believe thanks Richard McCoy for his assistance, but she did not repeat any of these allegations to him --

A She did not.

Q --at the time?

A At the time.

Q Just to clarify one thing: Did you ever ask McCoy whether he ever specifically asked these people whether they were being terrorized in any way?

A What he said is that when he was out in the field with these people, he would ask them about whatever the accusation was that we had received on the individual. I mean the accusations have varied. We have received a lot of mail. Some argue that they are not being allowed to leave or that they are being abused in one way or another. He would ask them, I dare say, that there had been a report or a letter or someone was complaining that this person was abused in that way, whatever way it was, and in every case they said it was not true.



Q Mr. Businell, did McCoy ever file any reports to Washington other than the specifics of these interviews? Any overall impressions giving an assessment of how he viewed the settlement, positively or negatively?

A I am not aware of any general assessment of that. I think he did send reports back on his visits. Whether that would be a general assessment or not, I don't know just how you would characterize it.

Q In view of the fact that Congressman Ryan's delegation is reported to have had a rather favorable first impression of the Jonestown settlement, is it considered likely, probable, or possible here that the oppressive conditions, let me say, could have been hidden from your consular officers?

A I would have to say that in view of the subsequent events which have now happened, it is obvious that they did not know of everything that was going on in that community. I would say that consular officers around the world certainly do not know everything that is going on in most communities around the world. All that we can do is to make the best efforts of trying to find if there are violations of the rights of Americans and laws that are being violated. The Consular Service of the United States is not inherently an investigative organization.

Q Might I follow that?

A One more here.

Q There are reports also that some people were being held there in what was described as deplorable living conditions in one specific hut or building. Do you have any information about that at all?

A This was a new colony out in the jungle. The living conditions were rugged and severe. I think there is no question about that. From the visits of the consular officers, he did not find anything inconsistent with that.

Q I mean since the atrocities have occurred.

A Our limited communication has not made it possible for us to go into that sort of detail what the facilities were.

Q Mr. Bushnell, one last question: Yesterday in the briefing, the transcript yesterday, has reference to one of the letters you got from parents, I believe it was, that referred to information about a reported suicide pact; and you said, "Well, I didn't notice that." I would ask, first of all, have you notice it in rereading it? And secondly, why does the State Department refer to this in the transcript as the "Guyana incident?" Doesn't it seem to be more than incidental?

MR. CARTER: The transcript also reveals the word "murder;" it reveals a number of other things. That word was used once, and we referred to it rather graphically in that transcript. There is a great deal more than that.

Q Right. What about the suicide pact, Hodding?

A MR. CARTER: I think there were, in fact, suggestions in some letters that such a thing was there. Let me say one other thing about the letters because I asked just to get a record on this. We received, roughly, 1200 letters on the subject of the Peoples Temple. Of that number, somewhere around 60 to 70 percent were favorable -- 60 to 70 percent. Now let me tell you more about the way our letters come in because --

Q How much?

MR. CARTER: Sixty to seventy percent. I want to tell you something about letters on subjects like this. I think some of you sitting out here know how they are done. We get a lot of campaign mail, mimeographed, all saying the same thing, all suggesting things that have been inspired by somebody else. A great deal of the letters that came in the category of supportive were in that variety. A number of the letters, the largest single mass of letters that we got, which were speaking in ways which were antagonistic, suggesting these terrible things were happening, concerned one particular family situation involving a child -- and I don't know how far I really can go on this one -- which, in fact, went forward with some legal action taken by the family in the attempt to have the child returned. Some of that mail was also campaign mail on behalf of that family. There were legal steps taken.

Not all of the supportive letters were campaign mail; that is, they were the ones written from people saying, "Why is it you won't release all the good things about this wonderful place that is being persecuted?" Similarly, there were letters that came out in the minority suggesting the bad things.

Q Hodding, if I could follow up --

Q So how does that compare with the mail you get on the Middle East or any other major subject?

MR. CARTER: I will tell you that.

Sue?

MISS HAUPE: From January through August of this year -- primarily, March through June.

MR. CARTER: How do you compare that, say, to campaign or other mail on a subject such as the Middle East, those 1200 letters?

MISS HAUPE: It was a little heavier than the mail on the Middle East during that period.

MR. CARTER: In that period.

MISS HAUPE: Yes.

Q Was there any subject which received more correspondence in that time period?

MISS HAUPE: I don't believe so.

MR. CARTER: Sue, you might want to check that.

MISS HAUPE: I will check that.

MR. CARTER: Because it seems to me I can recall getting, for instance 280 letters in a week about human rights conditions in Nicaragua. Whether that is sustained or not, you know, I think we would have to -- January through August was the period.

Q Hodding, it was well known on the Pacific Coast that Jones, by ordering his troops, his flock, could produce up to 500 letters a night. When I went to the Peoples Temple in 1972 I got 125 letters in three days and they were delivered by officers of Mendocino County. How can you, therefore, put any credence in these favorable letters to Jones, seeing that they were engineered by Jones himself?

A Les, I understand there are a number of politicians that are very responsive to campaign mail on subjects ranging from the Panama Canal treaties which are engineered and very well orchestrated, right on through, and are form letters which are produced by very well-financed operations which are in business just for that. That is a fairly normal --

Q But nobody died. There aren't 400 bodies as a result of the Panama Canal treaties.

A It is a fairly normal procedure in America today utilized by a number of people, and I think you know a lot of them very well.

(The Guyana briefing concluded at approximately 12:45)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/IR  
REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
RD For ID EXT. T. TE  
REASON(S) ☐  
EXEMPTIONS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TRANSCRIPT OF SPECIAL NEWS BRIEFING  
ON GAYANA

BY JOHN BUSHNELL

DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1978

MR. BUSHNELL: Thank you, Hodding.

Maybe we can be faster than we have been in previous days. I will go over first the situation on the ground, then I'll cover the present plans for handling the remains, and then take questions on any of the aspects.

We have, since the last briefing 24 hours ago, been proceeding very rapidly with the build-up of our equipment and expertise in the country. We have had a plane arriving in Georgetown about every two hours over the last 24 hours. That is continuing. Three Jolly Green Giants, the big H-53 helicopters, will be arriving in another hour or hour-and-a-half. They are flying in with aerial refueling. Fresh crews have been flown in so they will be immediately able to place those helicopters in operation on their arrival.

The 28-man U.S. Graves Registration Team arrived overnight in Georgetown and was flown into Jonestown the very first thing this morning. They have been working with the full cooperation of the Guyanese Government in preparing the dead for return to the United States.

The efforts to establish a base of operation at Matthews Ridge are already well advanced. Fuel is being flown up to operate helicopters from there; and that base will, within another couple of hours, be fully established. So the whole effort is finally geared up and being able to have an effect on the ground.

The shipment of bodies from Jonestown to Georgetown, about 120 miles away, will be by helicopter; and we expect that this will begin late this afternoon when those heavy helicopters get in. The bodies will then be taken from the Guyanese capital to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware for processing.

We have available C-141 aircraft to bring these bodies to the United States. It is not completely clear at this time when the first planeload of bodies will leave Georgetown. If everything goes very well -- meaning that the Graves Registration Team has made enough progress that 80 to 100 bodies are ready when the big helicopters get in, that they can pick those up smoothly, move them down to Georgetown, where they are being placed in what are called "body bags," rubberized bags at Jonestown -- they will be flown to Georgetown in those body bags, and the whole body bag will be placed in a rigid-transfer case. These transfer cases we are flying in from all over the United States, and they will then be loaded into the aircraft. It is possible that the first aircraft would get off by sometime between 6:00 and 8:00 o'clock tonight, EST. I don't want to make any commitments on that because, obviously, a lot of things can go wrong; but something in that order would be the earliest that we can get the first planeload moving.

We would then follow tomorrow morning with a very intensive and active operation in order to bring all the bodies out now just as quickly as we possibly can. The question on time there will depend on how much work and how time-consuming it is on the bodies which have not been identified at Jonestown. About half the bodies have not yet been identified, as far as we know; and there will be a division of work between what will be done on the ground and what will be done in Dover -- we do not know exactly what that division will be -- and that will control whether we are able to get all the bodies out in the course of tomorrow or if the operation will have to extend into or through Friday.

Where we have been notified by the Guyanese authorities of the next of kin, which is about half of the bodies -- where we have been notified of identification of bodies, about half the bodies -- we are notifying next-of-kin, and are continuing to do that. That will continue to go on. We are getting a large number of calls, and I might say that we are increasing the number of consular officers that we have working upstairs. We know that the public has, at some very busy time periods, had difficulty reaching our lines and so we are setting up additional lines. For those who are interested, I will repeat the numbers to be used to reach our consular officers here. It is area code 202-632-6610 and area code 202-632-3172. Those are the two numbers for use in reaching the consular officers.

We do not intend, until firm identification has been made by our own people, to post any lists; but we will pass on the information that the Guyanese Government has made and is making available to us. To anticipate some of the questions, I would say that the cost of this operation, of recovering the bodies, of flying them out to Dover, of processing them at Dover, will be met by the U.S. Government. When the bodies are turned over to representatives of next-of-kin at Dover, they will then become the responsibility of the next-of-kin.

Perhaps I'm a little bit disjointed here; but I might add, on calling in, we would welcome more calls than we are getting of close family members of people who were in Jonestown. By next-of-kin and close family members I mean parents, siblings, spouses, children. For number of people we do not have next-of-kin identification. I don't want to invite lots of calls just from friends who may have known people, at least at this time. We may, in the course of next week as we try to reach families of the more difficult cases, be welcoming that. But given the holiday weekend, our staffs are somewhat limited; and although we are trying to maintain a team of six to a dozen people working around the clock, there are still limits to what we can do. But for the immediate family, if they have not called in and they think they have someone in Jonestown, we would appreciate a call.

I think that pretty well brings you up to date on that situation. In terms of the investigation, the Guyanese are continuing. My information is that in the last few minutes, Mr. Layton has been arrested and charged with murder. Other people are being detained as possible suspects, and may be charged in the course of today or tomorrow. The investigation is continuing in Georgetown.

Members of the Peoples Temple organization who are in Guyana have been asked by the Government at this time not to leave as they are continuing to interview them; but we do anticipate that those who have not had any involvement in this situation will be permitted to leave sometime over the next few days, if they wish to do so.

Very few additional survivors showed up yesterday in either Jonestown or elsewhere. The search of the jungle is intensifying. With the heavier helicopters, we will be able to move in more Guyanese people. The light helicopters are continuing to explore the area, but thus far we have not found significant numbers of additional survivors in the area.

Q What is the total number?

A We now have, according to our records -- and this may be off a few because of the difficulty of keeping track of various groups -- about 72 people. This consists of essentially three groups. The largest group is a group which were in Georgetown at the Peoples Temple office in Georgetown or connected with it last Saturday. They were away from the up-country camp either because they normally work away from it, or they were away from it on some special business of that day -- a few people who were away from the camp because they were running a boat down the river or were otherwise occupied away from the area of the camp.

We have a second group which consists of people who were at the airport at the time of the incident with Congressman Ryan, and who have since been identified, who did not return after that incident to the camp. And then we have some people who were at Jonestown at the time when the apparent mass suicide took place -- that is a relatively small number -- who fled from that.

Combining all those people -- and in some cases we're not very clear in which category to put individuals -- we have about 72 people identified at this time.

Q What prompted Guyana to change its mind about burial in-place?

A As I said yesterday, it was our estimate from our pathologist here that that would be the only alternative, given the health situation on the ground; and we had authorized our Ambassador to proceed with that alternative if that was the view of the Guyanese Government. The Guyanese Government, after consulting with their health and police officials who were on site, felt that they did not yet have a health hazard, and given the early arrival of the potential to remove these bodies, they asked us to please proceed in that way. That did not run against our desires, necessarily. The reason we were moving to the internment option was because of the growing health hazard, not because we didn't wish to bring the bodies back. So their assessment on the ground led them to that decision, and we are proceeding in that way.

The initial reports from our own people in the Graves Identification Team do not conflict with their own health officials assessment of the situation.



Q Mr. Bushnell, people at Defense have said that the delay caused by the change of approach, that their equipment was on the ground waiting, that they didn't know whether to put identification people on or search teams on, and that this was a decision here that cost them very valuable time in both the rescue operation and in getting people out.

A The biggest requirement that we have had in Georgetown, either for search and rescue or for getting people out, has of course been the helicopters, not the other technicians. Unfortunately, there was a delay in the Graves Identification Team yesterday -- we had hoped to get it down earlier. My understanding is that the aircraft which was going to carry them out of Fort Bragg was delayed by technical problems for about six hours. I don't believe there has been any time when we haven't wanted those technical people. There has been a certain amount of confusion, because we haven't had experienced people on the ground fully aware of the technicalities of these operations, as to exactly what sort of people were needed. The view from the State Department has been, when in doubt send both.

Q Just to follow up, you lead us to believe yesterday that you were reluctantly going along with the Guyanese Government request for internment there because of the health hazards there. Why was the State Department so willing to go along with that request when it then became apparent that it was not necessary? Why not pursue the more preferable option of having these bodies properly identified and then returned?

A I'm not sure that I follow your question. But yesterday we were heavily driven, I think, by the assessment of our own pathologists in the United States who were estimating the condition of the bodies, given the terrain and the passage of time. Apparently there were Guyanese people also talking by radio and making an estimate in Georgetown. Some of that agreed, but when their experts on the ground assessed the situation that actually existed at Jonestown, they concluded that there was time available before the health hazard became too severe to take the bodies out. On the basis of that determination, that led them to request that we take the bodies out; and of course we agreed with it since the only reason that would lead us to another conclusion would have been an unmanageable health hazard and since they are the best judges, being physically present on the ground.

I think the information I had when I was here yesterday came, in a large extent, not from people who were on the ground looking at the bodies, but from people who were estimating what their condition would be.

Q Mr. Bushnell, the Justice Department is in progress on an investigation of the violations of Federal law involving the assassination of a Congressman. Yesterday Guyanese authorities declined to admit ten FBI agents who were prepared to go down there. Are the Guyanese authorities cooperating with the one FBI agent on the spot in their current investigation? Are they passing on to him the results of their interrogation or allowing him to participate in that interrogation?

A This morning the Legal Attache from Caracas met with the Guyanese officials, met with the Guyanese police chief, investigating chief, in Georgetown. The last report I had was that he was still meeting with them, that he was cooperating in this investigation. We have made clear to the Guyanese that, as in other areas, we are prepared to provide additional assistance, technical assistance, investigative assistance to help them in Guyana; that we are prepared to follow up with necessary interviews and investigations in the United States; that the full cooperation of the FBI will be available in this case.

Until the Legal Attache who is working with them and the Guyanese officials themselves assess precisely what sort of help is needed, what sort of expertise, the Guyanese have felt that it was premature to send down a general investigative team. It is their investigation, the investigation in Guyana. They are a sovereign country, and we are not trying in any way to take it over.

I think, from the conversations that I have had and that our Ambassador has had, that there will be additional specific requests for assistance from the FBI in aspects of this investigation. The investigation is, of course, making progress, as indicated by the fact that there has already been the first arrest and charge, and that we are expecting others to proceed fairly promptly.

Q If I could follow up my own question, the thrust of your reply is that the FBI is prepared to cooperate with Guyanese authority. What I asked was: Are Guyanese authorities prepared to cooperate with the FBI in their investigation?

A I think the answer is clearly yes in the fact that they are working right now with the FBI man. So not only are they prepared to cooperate, they are cooperating.

Q What is the specific murder charge? Who is Layton charged with killing?

A It is my impression -- I don't want to be absolutely definitive on this -- but I believe he is charged with killing people at the airport. Since I have not seen the charge, I do not know which specific persons he may be charged with killing.

Q If I may follow that up, what is the State Department feeling on whether extradition ought to be initiated so that Mr. Layton would be tried in this country?

A We will have to look at all the legal aspects of that question. Clearly he has committed a crime -- he is accused of committing a crime -- in Guyana. Some of the crimes he may have committed, particularly the murder of the Congressman if he is accused of that, conceivably are also crimes in the United States because of the protection of certain people.

Until we have many more details and can consult with the Guyanese in this, I think it would be premature to be addressing that issue.

It is quite conceivable -- in fact, even likely, I think -- that he is being charged in addition with the murder of individuals which would not constitute a U.S. crime.

Q Mr. Bushnell, would you have any informed speculation on the people who are still missing?

Do you believe, for example, that (a) they are mostly dead, (b) they are hiding in the jungle; or (c) that there aren't as many as we may have believed initially?

A We obviously do not know the answer to that question. There is a good deal of work that needs to be done. We have not yet completed an analysis of the names on the passports, for example, to see if that would identify certain groups -- "age groups, sex groups, and so forth -- as being missing as against the passports found in Jonestown.

It looks quite clear to me that the large figure of 1100 that we used early on is certainly more than the number of people that were in Jonestown on Saturday.

We have checked back carefully -- I have checked backed carefully -- the source of that figure. That figure was derived by the number of people who have applied to the Guyanese authorities since the beginning to migrate to Jonestown, to be migrants and to live in that area.

I suspect that a number, perhaps even a substantial number, of that 1100, after having migrated to Jonestown, decided to leave and therefore were not there at the time of the incident.

However, we cannot really deal with the question of whether there are large numbers. It seems, since we have not at this time and the Guyanese police who are now combing the jungle areas have not found any significant number of bodies nor live people, that it is unlikely that there are large numbers who flew randomly into the jungle. We cannot rule out that there was a group which departed in an organized way to the jungle to some sort of an alternative site. That might still exist, and we haven't yet located it. But it does not seem likely that there are several hundred people now in the jungle.

We are intensifying the search this afternoon. Tomorrow we will have a very large helicopter capacity directed to this search. We will be able to help the Guyanese put a lot more people into the area, and that will clarify this issue a good deal more.

Q What do you mean by the Guyanese police not having found a significant number of bodies in the area? Have they found any?

A I believe they have found a few. I do not have a firm reading on that, and I am not sure. On the various reports that we get what the definition of where the camp ends and the jungle begins is fuzzy, so there are some bodies that have been found. Some people might say that they are in the jungle; some people might say they are at the edge of the camp. That sort of situation makes it very hard for me on that question.

Q I am asking whether these people would be included in the 409, which I believe is the last number I heard, or whether the number has increased?

A No. They are included in the count of 405, which is still the last figure that we have. They are now going through a recounting process which will help us to firm up the figure.

Q Have you ruled out the possibility that the hundreds apparently missing may have been killed before Saturday night and are in mass graves somewhere?

A I cannot completely rule out that possibility. I would note one fact, which does not rule it out but which rules out certain aspects of it. There has been a story that particularly with older people, who either died or were killed, the Jonestown operation continued to collect the Social Security checks.

I can report that our Consular Officer in January of this year personally delivered the Social Security checks to all of the people in that area eligible for them, delivering them by hand on identification of their passports -- so that, at any rate at that time, we are sure that they were alive.

Now, that was January, and I cannot absolutely rule out what might have happened since that time.

Q You mentioned about 800 to 900 passports being found and that there are 400 dead.

Are there repeated passports or old passports?

There are at least some 500 missing, at least in the numbers game.

A Well, I suspect that the passports of a number of these survivors in the various categories may well be in this group as well.

Moreover, the quick observation that our people have given me of that is that quite a lot of the passports are the old large passports and there may have been new passports issued without the old one being removed from that group.

So until we have had time to go through the passports and see if there is duplication, we really cannot deal with that issue.

Q Mr. Bushnell, can I follow up on earlier question here?

Have you learned anything from any of the people who were at Jonestown that would lead you to believe that there might be mass graves at any other site?

In other words, presumably you are questioning these people. There are quite a number of them that have survived. Have any of them indicated to you in any way that such an alternative grave site might exist?

A We have somewhat of a time lag here in that, as you can imagine, our Embassy in Guyana is a very small post. Although we have sent in some people, there is a lot of interviewing going on which they simply have time to write-up and pass up to us.

All I can say is of the reports, the several reports, that I have read and I think also the direct conversations that I have had with them -- something this significant they would tend to pass on -- I have not heard of anything involving any mass sort of execution.

Q Mr. Bushnell, it is clear from the press reports alone that this was more than just a religious cult. This was obviously a training ground for terrorist tip squads, as well as people who were involved in drugs and other -- I think that is absolutely clear from the press reports themselves, and I am sure the press reports are covering up a lot of other things. I have several questions in regard to that.

First of all, is Ambassador Quainton looking into the situation from that point of view? Is he involved in this in any way?

A Ambassador Quainton's office has been kept informed of all of this situation. Up until this point his office has not concluded that it involved a situation of that nature. He has not come to the same conclusion that you have apparently.

Q Are you investigating the group called "The East" that moved from Brooklyn, New York, at the same time under exactly similar conditions to Guyana also under pressure of the same individuals whose letters were referenced in the Times and the Institute for Policy Studies which was pressuring the Guyanese Government to open up the territory to these various organizations?

Are you familiar with "The East"?

A Let me say that we are not -- we, the United States Government -- are not investigating any particular groups in Guyana. The Guyanese have an investigation, the FBI has an investigation because of the murder and attacks on certain protected persons.

But we are not conducting some widespread investigation of a situation in Guyana or various groups there. We are concentrating on a more limited basis, as are the Guyanese, on what is rather obviously a tremendous calamity and obvious crimes clearly presented.

Q Mr. Bushnell, could you respond to the fact that Congressman Zablocki has written to the Secretary to request further information about what the Department knew, when it knew it, whether or not the Consular Officers did enough, the whole aspect of an investigation into what preceded and possibly could have anticipated what happened down there?

A Yes. I have seen the letter which Congressman Zablocki has sent to the Secretary. We have already started this morning to prepare the answer to the very extensive questions in that letter. It will provide the basis of the encyclopedia, I suspect, on this issue. It will take time to answer these questions. We hope to make the deadline, which is a fairly early deadline, that the Congressman has suggested we make. Certainly we will have at least an initial submission. There may be some pieces of it that will require a little bit more time. And we will provide all the information that has been requested in that letter.

I don't have, on this Task Force and appearing before you here, the feeling that we have anything to cover up, so we are quite prepared to make available all the information.

I myself have been very impressed, and I think the sort of information that I have been giving here, in terms of the work that our Consular Officers in Guyana have done, that we have devoted a great deal more time and attention and effort to this group of American citizens living overseas than to almost any other group of American citizens living overseas reflecting the concerns and the unusual circumstances of this case.

But this is a voluminous record in our file, and we would draw on that to answer all of the questions which the Committee has put to us.

Q Can I follow on that, please? Can you say at this time whether you still feel that the State Department was responsive enough to the relatives at those earlier points?

A I am sure that there were various times when it would have been nice in a humane sense to have done more for the relatives that were concerned, in retrospect clearly legitimately concerned. And on that balance we would always like to serve the American people better. Given our own limitations of budget and personnel and so forth, there are limits to what we can do.

It would have been nice to do more.

On the other side of that equation, let me say that we have done much more for this group of concerned Americans in terms of spending time and effort and State Department funds and so forth than for almost any other group that I can think of. So, in that sense, relatively speaking we have done an awful lot. In an absolute sense there are certainly individual aspects which it would have been nice to do more.

Q John, you said the file was voluminous on this. I assume that there is a lot of correspondence, there are MEMCONS from the Embassy and so on, which I presume would be of an unclassified nature.

Would these be available for inspection or would they be available under the Freedom of Information Act, so that we could actually see the reports in the files of the Department about what came out on this group out of Guyana? And specifically was there any correspondence to the Department from Reverend Jim Jones himself?

A Your first question, certainly this is available in the Freedom of Information Act. We look at the availability in the Freedom of Information Act as we would anything else, and I assume that, given the attention to this, we will have a good deal of Freedom of Information work.

I do not myself -- but I have not spent the many hours in these files that some of our other people have -- recall any communication from the Reverend Jones himself. But I certainly would not want to say that there are not communications in that from him. There may well be.

Q Thank you.

(At 12:45 p.m. the special briefing concluded)



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TRANSCRIPT OF THE SPECIAL BRIEFING

ON THE GUYANA SITUATION  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1978

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MR. CARTER: This is a one subject briefing. The briefer is again Deputy Assistant Secretary Bushnell. The subject is Guyana and the associated information that goes with that particular tragedy.

MR. BUSHNELL: I thought that Wednesday might be the last time I would be here, but I think there has been enough developments since to warrant going over them and putting them in perspective for you.

The first thing that I might do is to review our latest statistics which I have just gotten from our Ambassador in Guyana within the last hour.

As with any numbers, I think it would be dangerous to concentrate on these as being right down to the last one or two, but it at least gives a general frame.

As of about an hour ago 485 bodies had been moved from Jonestown to either a staging area where they would be lowered into helicopters or further. Some bodies, of course, have already -- quite a number -- have already arrived at Dover. But from, in some point of movement, 485. Twenty additional bodies have been bagged and they have just made this morning a rather careful hand count of 270 additional bodies. That gives a total of 775. That does not include the five bodies that we have already identified; four who died in Georgetown itself of the Peoples Temple members, one Peoples Temple member who died in the incident at the airport, and, of course, it does not include the members of the CODEL.

They do not believe that that is a fully complete number. There are a relatively small number, or they think there may be a relatively small number, of additional bodies in the Jonestown area not included in that count.

But that is where we stand at the moment as far as the numbers are concerned; approaching 800. Until these bodies are moved and processed we will not have a final definitive count. That may not even be until some time tomorrow afternoon.

This does not mean that we have found an area removed and separate from Jonestown where there were a

large number of bodies. These bodies have been found in the Jonestown area.

I would recall that the original estimate that we had last Monday and Tuesday of about 400, or 410 was the figure some people were using, was a rough preliminary estimate made by the Guyanese police forces when they initially came into the area. It was not obviously a careful head-by-head count.

The circumstances in the area -- and I think I can only describe them as being virtually unimaginable, particularly as of this week in the tropics has progressed -- has not made it a very pleasant task working there. The personnel all use gas masks and other protective gear. Counting the bodies has not been a high priority for the people on the ground. Going ahead with the identification and the bagging in order to bring them out has been the high priority.

So, it has only been as we have come down towards the end of this, moving the number of bodies out, that we have begun to come to more of a count.

Quite a number of the bodies of infants have been found under the bodies of adults and were obviously not counted in the first round. The present estimate is that among the dead are 180 children, at least 180 children under fifteen.

Our general effort, as I think you are aware from other sources, to move the bodies by helicopter down to Georgetown and then by the C-141s to Dover, is progressing. It is moving as rapidly as we can. It will continue through tomorrow, probably into Saturday, before we get all of these bodies lifted off from Jonestown and Georgetown and into Dover. It may even run into Sunday before the last planes arrive.

Let me turn to one other aspect of this story, which I think giving you some specifics which are not quite so gruesome will be useful. That has been the question that has arisen in a number of areas: Were we doing enough to search for potential survivors who might have left the camp and been in the jungle surrounding the camp?

I would say, and as I said from this platform before and has been clear throughout with all elements of the U.S. Government working on this, is that the highest priority has been given to the caring for the living and the seeking of survivors who might be alive. We have done that throughout this operation and continue to do that today.

Because we have seen until we have gotten these latest counts that there seem to be quite a number of people who were missing, high priority has been given to seeking of survivors in the jungle areas. As you know, on Monday and Tuesday a few people, a small number, were found. U.S. aircraft have been directed to reconnoiter the area from the air and, in fact, these searches and shuttle flights continue.

Yesterday aircraft were devoted to going up and down the rivers. Today four helicopters are flying search patterns announcing by bullhorns that help is available. However, because of the conditions the main search effort has been carried out on the ground by those who know the countryside.

This was the responsibility of the Government of Guyana. Since Tuesday the Guyanese defense force has been using a battalion-size force, 300 to 400 people, to conduct ground searches along jungle trails in the region. All trails out of Jonestown -- a limited number -- have been searched and the inhabitants along them have been interviewed. Starting Wednesday they have been using guides from the local Indian tribes in the area.

On Thursday a reconnaissance helicopter with a joint U.S. and Guyanese crew spent the entire day combing the region, touching down at clearings at Indian settlements and talking with the people to see if there was any evidence of any survivors in the area.

In this effort we believe the region has been thoroughly covered. We believe that in talking to the Indians and the search that has been made we would have turned up any clues if there were survivors in the area. No trace of any additional survivors has appeared.

Moreover, of the few survivors that returned to Jonestown did not themselves, in talking with them, indicate that there were others in the jungle.

Nonetheless, we think that we should leave no stone unturned, and we are continuing the intensive search effort with the Guyanese with the main responsibility being theirs.

I should point out this is an area of jungle canopy, such as many of you have seen in Vietnam where it is literally impossible to see even things as big as tanks and trucks in the jungle canopy from the air. So finding individuals would be extremely hard. The helicopter

search is obviously not the best way to go about this.

Our main contribution to the search has been to provide needed equipment to the Guyanese police and military engaged in this which they lacked. I can indicate what some of this equipment was. For example, we have provided sixteen portable radios, walkie-talkies, three-FM base stations, two single side band radios, a number of sleeping bags, blankets, some thousands of sea rations, five outboard motors, five power generators, a large number of flashlights, ponchos and canteens, the sorts of things that these people have needed to maintain deployment in this area working on this project over the last week.

As we have gotten the latest figures, it does not suggest that there is any large number of survivors out there, but even if there are only a few we want to make every effort to identify them and do what we can to rescue them.

This effort will continue until we are quite sure that there are not any further survivors. In part that will come about as we are able to process some of the documentation that we have recovered from the Peoples Temple and can get some better listing of names and more precise information of how many people were in the Temple in the Jonestown settlement on last Saturday.

With that I will stop this introduction and take questions.

Q Your figure of 775, you said it does not include how many people who died in Georgetown and the others? How many is it; five in total?

A There were five bodies which we took out of Georgetown who did not die in Jamestown. This constituted four people in one family who died in Georgetown itself last Saturday and one person from the Temple who died with the CODEL.

Q And how many survivors have there been either that have shown up in Georgetown or somewhere else? Because you mentioned 72 this week.

A There is now something between seventy and eighty people. This includes, as I said, several categories. Some who were at the office of the Peoples Temple in Georgetown last Saturday. They were not in Jonestown. Some who went to the airport -- to Port Kaituma -- with the CODEL and never went back to Jonestown. Some who escaped from Jonestown, which is a relatively small

number, at the time of the events there last Saturday.

But the sum total of that is in the vicinity of 75 to 80. I am not sure of a precise figure on that.

Q In addition to this logistical support that you mention our giving the Guyanese defense forces, are we paying the Government of Guyana anything or providing any sort of subsidy for them to carry out the search or to do anything else in connection with this incident?

A No, we are not. They are meeting their own expenses beyond the sorts of things that we are providing to them, and they have made no request for financing. They have made requests for specific items which they needed.

Q Mr. Bushnell, to clarify where these additional bodies were counted. They were all presumably around the shed where the other bodies were or were any in the jungle? Could you elaborate a little on that?

A I don't have full details on this. They were all in the settlement. That does not necessarily mean they were around the pavilion. I think some reports I have seen suggest some were found in the hospital, some may have been found in other buildings in other parts of the settlement.

I suppose it is not completely clear where the definition of the settlement and the jungle begins, but essentially they were not found at a distance from the Jonestown settlement. They were found in the immediate region, but not necessarily all around the pavilion, although obviously that is where the largest number was.

Q Did they seem to have died from poisoning or were there additional gunshot cases?

A Until all the bodies are processed we cannot be definitive on that. But thus far we have found only a hand full that have gunshot wounds.

Q Are these new bodies?

A Of the bodies that have been processed. We cannot separate new from old. Essentially our teams have gone in there and have begun processing the bodies one at a time. They haven't selected any new versus old. They processed them as they come to them.

Q By all indications and these new figures, it would indicate that there are few, if any, survivors at all. How many would you estimate based on how many

people there were at Jonestown?

A We have at the moment recovered about 870 passports. That may include, of course, some duplications, old passports, new passports, until we process them.

We have had several people count the numbers of beds in the Jonestown community and the count is about 600 single beds.

We have a petition which was signed showing solidarity with the Reverend Jones, which was signed in early November, which has between 600 and 700 names signed on it.

If we take these sorts of indications I think the suggestion is that there is not a large number of people unaccounted for. That is not necessarily to say that there are no people unaccounted for, although that is conceivable that we have none unaccounted for. But we certainly have now a number of bodies which seems to be in the vicinity of what other indications and sources would suggest were the number of people who were in Jonestown last Saturday.

Q Mr. Bushnell, that petition you referred to, is that the one that protested the eminent visit of Congressman Ryan or the projected visit of Congressman Ryan?

A I have not read the text of that, so I cannot say whether it protested it or not. It is a petition, I gather, that was executed to show support for Reverend Jones and I gather was done in anticipation of the visit of the CODEL.

Q Is that available here, the text of that?

A I do not believe that the text is available here. I think that our Embassy in Georgetown has a copy of it. But I am not sure it is available here. I haven't myself seen it.

Q Do you have any figure for the cost of the whole operation, including transport to Dover, sending down the airplanes, the whole thing?

A I don't have any figure on that. In fact, to come up with any reliable figure will take a lot of time to get all the accounting done.

Furthermore, I think there are some very major conceptual problems in how one looks at the cost. Most of the manpower involved here -- in fact, all of

it on the U.S. Government side -- are people that are already employed, already being paid, either in the military or in the Foreign Service or in the FBI or whatever it might be that are working on this problem. Should one include their salaries for this time or should one not? That is a conceptual problem which would make a significant difference in the cost.

Similarly, very little new equipment has been bought for this operation. We are using airplanes, helicopters, even a mortuary, all of which were in the inventory, in effect, and are being used for this purpose. How should one consider in doing cost depreciation on this, if at all?

There are clearly costs, such as the purchase of gasoline, the payment of additional per diem, which have a special relationship to this mission.

But even beyond this there is the question of training that a number of people who have rather difficult responsibilities are getting through with, training which would if there were a training exercise have been costly.

So, to come up with figures on this is very hard.

My indication is that, the last thing that the people told me as head of the task force, in terms of the cost now being accumulated we are between two and three million. There will be additional costs obviously coming in. We still have more flights to run in terms of bringing out additional bodies and in terms of returning the equipment which is down there. Just where this figure will come out eventually and on what concept it should be done, I think are questions that will require a lot of sorting out.

Q Can you clarify, though, where you get the \$2 million or \$3 million figure? Is that the gasoline and per diem figure as distinct, then, from the salaries you were trying not to count?

A That is correct. Those are the costs that are identified in the current DOD system as being associated with this operation.

Q Mr. Bushnell, you speak of large numbers of children buried underneath their parents or other adults. What other reasons would you have for this rather dramatic rise in the figures that you're talking about, or is that the sole reason?

A I don't think that's the sole reason. I

think that, as I said at least when I first gave out the 400 figure, that was a figure quickly done by the Guyanese people who moved into the area initially in the dark and in the rain; the rain continued and this was a very difficult situation. It is not clear on what precise basis they came up with that figure. It was not ever presented as a careful count, and given the situation and the basic unpleasantness of the situation there, I don't think that it is too surprising that the number was off. Obviously, it was off by a considerable amount.

Also, I do not have a feel yet as to how many bodies have been found in other buildings and so forth which they might not have been aware of at the time they gave their first estimate. Both the Guyanese forces and our own people have been rather careful the last couple of days, as it was obvious that there were more bodies, that until they had had time to do something somewhat more systematic not to simply give out another estimate which might also have been totally wrong. Even today, as I said, we are not sure that we have counted all the bodies. Until more are processed and they can really comb the area, and make sure that they have processed all the bodies there, we will not have a final figure.

Q So, you're suggesting the number has been rising steadily over the past couple days?

A Let me put it this way: It seems that all the bodies that were there on Saturday was the population of bodies. As work has proceeded and has become apparent to people working that as they had processed 300 there were more than 100 left. Precisely how many were left would require counting, and they thought they had more important things to do in order to keep up with their schedules and meet the ability to move the bodies out of there than to go around and count.

Q Was the first count the one that came up with the 409 figure on Monday or Tuesday, was that done on the ground or from the air?

A It is my information that that was an estimate made by the people on the ground.

Q Given the new count, Mr. Bushnell, and the rate at which these bodies are being processed and flown to Dover, when would you think the operation would be completed?

A We have a number of uncertainties in this situation. We will try to proceed, obviously, just as rapidly as we can. It is quite clear that we will not get the last bodies out of Jonestown until sometime



very late tomorrow or Sunday. That will put them in Dover, of course, with a lag for loading in Georgetown on the seven-hour flight. If things go wrong, if the weather turns bad on us, it could slip further. If we get these torrential downpours, then the helicopters cannot fly.

Q Mr. Bushnell, many of the relatives of these dead people have been complaining about the financial hardship they will have to endure once they claim the bodies and fly them back to San Francisco and make preparation for a funeral. Is there any contemplation given to the chance of loading these bodies onto a plane and flying it to Travis Air Force Base somewhere near San Francisco where most of these people, where their home town was located, so that it would ease the hardship on these relatives

A Let me define how we have at this point decided what it is reasonable for the U.S. Government to pay for and what should be paid in some other way. This has been, no matter which number one uses, a terrible calamity virtually unprecedented in recent times. It has happened in a remote area of a relatively poor country which itself did not have the capability to handle this sort of situation in terms of identifying bodies and processing them and working this problem out. Moreover, the people involved were almost all Americans. In fact, probably the only organization in the world that could have coped with this problem in a reasonable time is the U.S. military, so that we felt that it was only reasonable for the U.S. Government to use the resources that were available in terms of transportation, in terms of technical expertise and body processing, both in Guyana and then at the Dover facility in order to identify the maximum number of these people. We have proceeded to do that at the taxpayers' cost with government funds.

Once the remains have been identified and processed at Dover, they can then be handled by the normal commercial funeral director services in the United States. They are experienced at doing this. They have arrangements to receive them at Dover and to process them. From that point on, the instructions will be, of course, different depending on the various beliefs and circumstances of next-of-kin. We felt that that was really the point at which we should turn it over. That is the situation in which the incident, as far as remains goes, ceases to be so unusual that only a major effort by the government with its special facilities could handle it, and it could then be handled in the normal way.

I should point out that the standard is for Americans dying overseas that the U.S. Government is not responsible for the disposal of the remains or for bringing them home -- this is left up to the families.

So, on the one hand, I suppose, as is often the case, we will be in the middle between those people who think we shouldn't have met any expenses and those who think we should meet all the expenses until final interment. But it seems to us that a reasonable and logical break in that process was at the point after the processing in Dover where the established funeral director industry in this country can reasonably assume the responsibility.

Q Many of these families were poor black families who were the parents of some of the people who died in there. In other words, you are saying you haven't set up any way so that even these families can get some type of special consideration if they absolutely can't afford to handle the --

A The State Department has not really addressed that issue, and I don't know what the status would be in terms of that if these families are in a welfare situation, how in the various states, which I suppose are different, would handle the situation; but I think that is the area in which that would have to be looked at, and I suppose it would depend on the states and the various localities, and so forth.

Q What do you plan to do with unclaimed bodies, if any?

A To the extent that there are unidentified -- and we cannot rule that out; there will be some really horrendous identification problems, particularly of children -- unidentified bodies or unclaimed bodies that will be the responsibility of the government to give them a decent and dignified burial in the Dover area.

Q You said a few moments ago that almost all the victims were Americans. Were there any non-Americans among them?

A We have found four non-U.S. passports among the passports that we have looked at. We understand that there were some children who were born in Guyana who were living in the camp. We have not yet determined whether or not they have been adopted and assumed American citizenship or not. These numbers, as you see, are very small, but there does appear to have been a rather small number --

Q What kind of passports?

A I don't recall precisely what the four non-U.S. passports were.

Q Mr. Bushnell, why were these bodies not flown directly to California? Why were they flown to a

point 3,000 miles away from where most of the parents and relatives were from?

A We faced the problem of moving these bodies as rapidly as we could from where they were in Guyana to the closest facility which could reasonably handle them which was Dover and which we can make with the C-141 in one hop. This was the facility which the Department of Defense felt was best set up, the most adequate to serve them. Therefore, given these logistical considerations, that is the facility that we decided to use. If you recognize that Guyana is quite far east, their time is two hours ahead of ours, and you recognize that, geographically, there is a lot of east-west distance between Guyana and California as well as, of course, the north-south distance, which is about the same whether you're going to Delaware or to California. Therefore, that was the logistical consideration that moved us to choose Dover, as well as the consideration, for reasons which aren't completely clear in detail to me, that this facility seemed to be the best Department of Defense facility to handle this task.

Q Who paid for the shipment of the bodies of the newsmen back to California?

A I believe that they were moved on the same plane as the Congressman, and whether that will be paid for out of Congressional appropriations out of the Executive Branch we'll work out. The movement of the remains of the Congressman home is, of course, done at government expense.

Q Mr. Bushnell, the original reports from Jonestown said that American personnel thought that their top priority was looking for survivors. Was there any sort of change in mission? Were they originally told to go down and do one thing and then, in mid-stream, told to do something else, or was that just a misinterpretation?

A I think that's a misinterpretation, and I suppose it depends on whom you are talking to. The Graves Identification Unit, the people whose job it is to process bodies, if you talk to them, their job -- meaning the job of that unit -- was, obviously, to go down and get the bodies out. They were not involved in the search and rescue sort of operation, so at any given moment, you could find people whose job, if they spoke for them or their unit, was to get the bodies out, and the technical expertise that was needed for that was sent down there.

What I was talking about was the priority in

terms of the total U.S. Government effort was, first of all, to look for survivors and try to help them, and only the secondary priority was for moving the bodies.

Q There is a story today in the Post quoting Mr. Mark Lane and suggesting that he knew more about Jonestown than he told the newsmen before they went in there. Is any idea being given of talking to him as part of the whole investigation of this incident?

A I can confirm that consular officers from the Embassy talked to him when he was in Georgetown. What he said is covered by the Privacy Act -- what he said to us. What he said to you and others we'll all read.

Q Hodding, has there been a marked increase in the number of calls and letters the State Department is receiving from relatives of people who are members of other cults expressing concern?

MR. CARTER: I'll have to take the question. I don't know the answer. I can find out, however, and just put it to the Public Correspondence Division.

Q Another part of that question, is the State Department considering changing its policy so that it becomes a little more aggressive in investigating these complaints, or is it going to stick with the position that it took on Jonestown, that this was basically a freedom-of-religion case?

MR. CARTER: I think as a matter of policy, I couldn't accept the premise of the question -- that in fact we did pursue the complaints.

Q I'm saying "more aggressively"; nobody is saying that you didn't --

A I guess even there, I have some difficulty. "More aggressively," meaning what, sending special teams out when you have this kind of thing?

Q Making an effort to arrive unannounced, or whatever.

A There are some problems inherent in a lot of this, including what the responsibilities and rights are of consular officers are in relation to American citizens abroad, or at home for that matter. I believe that, obviously, the United States is going to examine what happened here and look at it very closely. But I have to start with the premise that in fact the consular service, and the consular officers specifically in Georgetown who went to Jonestown, did investigate aggressively and made every

effort that they could to find out what the situation was.

But let me, on your other question, if you don't mind just give a check back on the News Room and to the Press Office this afternoon.

Q Could I ask just one question about the cost of the transport of the bodies from Dover to California. If there any consideration being given to using what I believe is a sum of money found in Jonestown, for this purpose?

MR. BUSHNELL: There are very complicated estate and related questions that relate to that money. It is also not clear what role the Peoples Temple organization in California will play in this matter. However, some of the survivors of this group are members of the Peoples Temple, and conceivably, that could be an outcome. But that is really up to the individuals involved to decide, and will be dealt with by them.

Q Has there been some discussion in Georgetown amongst the American Public Health advisers and the Guyanese of having to raze Jonestown and burn it to the ground because of the public health problem?

A The general status of the health problem has been kept under continual review. They have not come to the conclusion that something like that was necessary at this time, and I think by the nature of that problem, it will not be able to be assessed until all of the bodies are removed and there is a certain passage of time. Then that issue would have to be addressed, depending on the situation at that time.

Q But it has been discussed?

A To my knowledge, that has not been discussed among people there. I think they have had other more urgent problems to be thinking about in the state that we are now in.

Q Was there any expert pathologist who examined the body of Jim Jones specifically there, or will any special medical attention be placed on his body in Dover?

A The Guayanesse medical examiner, I think it is safe to say, focused particularly on his case in site. I cannot comment on what will be done at Dover. You would have to get that from the people there.

MR. CARTER: Since we are not having a briefing, I would just remind you that we do have a skeleton staff in the Press Office. If there are other subjects that concern you, put them. On that specific question, I'll see whether I can't get the Public Correspondence Division to answer it.

Q Thank you.

(The briefing was concluded at 12:50 p.m.)  
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DPC 221

TRANSCRIPT OF DAILY BRIEFING  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1978

(ON THE RECORD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

MR. CARTER: Good afternoon.

Available in the Press Office later this afternoon is the speech of Richard Holbrooke, Assistant Secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, before the Women's Democratic National Committee. The subject is: The U.S. and Asia: Approaching the 21st Century.

We'll also have available this afternoon the program for the official visit to the United States of the Prime Minister of Tunisia Lency Hedi Nouira, who will be accompanied by his wife. The parameters of that visit are November 28 to December 5.

The 27-nation Colombo Plan will meet in Washington November 28 to December 6 to discuss development issues facing the peoples of South and Southeast Asia and the Pacific in efforts to improve their living standards. A plenary session will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, the 28th, to open the meeting, in the International Conference area of the Department of State. A plenary at 11:15 a.m., Monday, December 4, will inaugurate the ministerial level of the talks.

These plenary sessions are open to the media. Briefings on the meeting will be given by Secretary-General John McDonald, Jr., at times and places to be announced.

A press desk will be located in Room 1212A. Correspondents with Department of State, White House, Congressional or Metropolitan Police press credentials will have access to the conference area. Lacking these credentials, correspondents with journalistic identification can attend press briefings and press conferences by contacting the State Department Press Office at 632-2492.

I would note that this will be the first time that the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has attended a Colombo Plan Meeting.

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A I am sorry, because I don't remember in what way it was set as a deadline, Jim. I think that we have obviously hoped that we could get some kind of plan in motion and agreement on how we ought to proceed clearly before the election period, assuming it goes forward in Namibia, which has been called under the stewardship of South Africa. But I don't know that we had something which said at this point something else had to happen.

Your recollection may be better than mine, but I don't remember that.

Q I will have to dig out my notes.

A Okay.

Now, you are next and then we are going to go to new subjects thereafter. Okay?

Q Right.

A And I have about four or five of you stacked up with new subjects. Go ahead.

Q Hodding, are we still on the Secretary's trip to New York?

A Okay.

Q If we are still on the trip, I would like to know whether or not he is going to consult with anybody regarding Lebanon and the statements made by the Secretary General regarding the Lebanese Christian forces.

A Joe, what I really have said is that when I have sense of who he has met with I will make that information available, as I am sure the USUN will, who will be a lot closer to it.

Q Hodding, since I understand that there are reports that it is going to cost more than \$3 million to bring back the bodies of the Peoples Temple and since the Reverend Jim Jones is ordained and continued to be recognized as a clergyman of the 1.3 million-member disciples of Christ, who have accepted his contributions for years, I was wondering if the Carter Administration believes that all American taxpayers should have to pay this \$3 million rather than this being paid by this denomination whose minister was responsible for this mass killing.



A Les, I think there are two things here.

The first is that I am not, in fact, up to date on a running total on the costs; and I don't want to dispute the costs. I wouldn't even suggest that it is high.

Q But it is cost. There is no question.

A But let me just say that I can't deal with the figure you have given me.

On the basic question of cost, I think that the Deputy Assistant Secretary, Mr. Bushnell, last week suggested that the Government had undertaken, for a number of reasons that he enumerated at the time, to send at Government expense the folks -- that is to say the bodies of the folks -- from Guyana to Dover and that at that point the cost of the individual bodies identified and what have you would then be assumed in the normal course of events by the individuals' families.

I have heard it suggested that that is a terribly expensive thing for the United States Government. I have seen a resolution from the Board of Supervisors out in San Francisco that we ought to assume the cost of the entire transportation of these bodies out to the West Coast or wherever.

To answer your question very directly, the answer is no.

Q Well, Hodding, to follow that up, if the Reverend Sung Yung Moon were to take 900 American Moonies on a canoe trip over Victoria Falls, for example, would the U.S. Treasury pay for this, the cost of returning these bodies to Dover, and will the Secretary consider billing the Disciples of Christ for what their minister caused?

A I think the answer to the second thing is I know of no such consideration.

On the question of the first thing, let me say that this is such an extraordinary tragedy -- such, in fact, a mind-boggling tragedy -- that the assumptions that the United States Government makes are frankly not precedential but are one time involved in this, and that I would not suggest to you that there is anything to be said about -- you know, any speculative --

Q Just one related question, if I could, Hodding, just one related.

Given the 1200 letters of concern about this Guyana colony and enough concern for a Congressman to go and investigate, could you tell us, did any of our intelligence services do any investigation of the Guyana colony and, if not, why not?

And if they were asked to investigate and were unable to infiltrate one church, how can the American people have confidence that our own intelligence can handle the Soviet Union?

A Les, there is no First Amendment dealing with our relations with the Soviet Union, to begin with -- I mean, insofar as the Government intrusion into organized religion.

The second thing is, insofar as intelligence activities or activities of Justice or any other such organization, I am not the place to ask the question. I think it has been dealt with.

Q Hoddin, related to that.

Do you know how many survivors are going to be brought back, to where, when?

A Survivors. Okay.

On the question of the survivors, if a substantial group, which is not clear, of the survivors wish to leave together from Guyana, it is our plan that they would be flown to Charleston, South Carolina, by military aircraft sometime this week.

And I have to stress the conditional because it is not clear precisely who would want to or would not want to come in such a way or whether they would wish to come.

At this point, in any case, it is very doubtful that such an undertaking would take place before late tomorrow at the earliest -- that is to say, late Tuesday.

To repeat, it really is impossible for us to speculate how many people might be aboard such a flight in any case. Some of them may decide to leave by other means. Some may not wish to return to the United States. And some may be required to remain in Guyana for some longer period of time in connection with the Guyanese investigation of the tragedy.

I am afraid that really is exactly where we are right now. I talked to some people down in Charleston, and this comes from our team upstairs.

Q Hodding, would that also be at Government expense?

A I will have to take the question. I have no idea whatsoever, though I would doubt it. I just don't know.

I am taking the question, Dick.

Q Hodding, will the U.S. Government now take a closer look -- I mean within the Constitution -- a closer look at U.S. groups, or churches, or cults, overseas?

A Again, I think the constrictions and restrictions are fairly severe and fairly clear as to the extent of what we can do besides investigate complaints as we did in this instance through the Consular service and attempt to ascertain whether or not American citizens are being held against their will in situations abroad.

I think I may have said this last week. As far as what lessons may be learned from this tragedy, what different emphasis might be created in future handling and the sensitivity to possibilities -- which, quite frankly, I think no one in this room would deny were unthinkable before they happened as a reality -- I can't speculate as to what we may be considering because it is still early days.

Q Hodding, is the United States satisfied with the explanation given for the drastic miscount of the bodies, and does the United States plan to investigate some kind of -- do some kind of investigation into why there was such a drastic miscount of the bodies?

A I think that the reasons that have been given for that underestimate are acceptable and believable; and I can only say, speaking personally, that I do not find it at all surprising. But I think that that is the attitude also that we have.

Q Hodding, what happens to the money that was recovered from that? Does that go back to the Peoples Temple in San Francisco?

A I don't know. I think that is a legal question which I can't determine. You might try Justice on that and I will see what I can get on it.

Jeff, do you have any idea?

MR. DIETERICH: Yes.

I think that the money at this point found on the site in Jonestown is in the custody of the Government of Guyana. The first determination would depend upon legal considerations in Guyana, the Guyanese court system.

A Next question. Go ahead.

Q Hodding, to follow this up, did I understand you to say that to investigate or infiltrate the Peoples Temple would have been a Government intrusion into organized religion forbidden by the First Amendment?

A I think there is a feeling that there are constitutional restrictions on investigations of organized religions and religious cults.

Q Cardinal Crawl of Philadelphia, as you will recall, has charged that the Government is regularly intruding into his parochial schools with agents and demands for files, and not only that but the Department of Justice forced eight prominent clergymen across the country to register as foreign agents because they entertained African clergymen.

Now, I don't understand why if you intrude that way, when there are reports of beatings and all manner of things going down there you felt that you couldn't investigate, Hodding.

A We did investigate.

Q How did you investigate? You sent a guy out there to say, "Is everything all right," out in the middle of a field?

A That is right. It was --

Q That is the only investigation you conducted, is that correct?

A Insofar as in the field, in Guyana, is concerned, the answer is to the best of my knowledge yes.

Staying on Guyana for a moment, let me see the hands of people who want to talk about Guyana.

Okay. Go.

Q Hodding, is the State Department aware of the contents of this reported suicide note from the Reverend Jones? And, if so, is there anything you can say about it or why the contents are not being released?

A I think that, while the entire set of circumstances involving crimes in Guyana is under investigation, our ability to comment on various documents -- and I have seen a number that have surfaced that allegedly said this or that or the other -- is going to be severely curtailed. We are not going to be commenting while the investigation is under way both into the murders of the Congressman and the party and the deaths or whatever -- suicide, murders, whatever they may be. Until that investigation is complete, we are not going to be able to comment on various documents which may figure in the investigation.

Q Has the Department seen this note, though? Is it aware of what is in the note?

A Jeff, do you know the answer to that one?

MR. DIETERICH: My understanding is that the note was forwarded from Dover through the Department of State, and then that package was delivered unopened to the Department of Justice.

A To proceed. ©

MR. DIETERICH: Yes.

Q Hodding, is the State Department investigating a possible political tie between Burnham and Jones and some of the people who campaigned for Burnham, and they both have certain ideological things in common?

A I think the answer to that is no. The answer would be that again the activities, political activities, of American citizens abroad in that respect would be a matter for the government or the people of that country to decide whether they violated the laws of the country or not. It is not a specific function of State to look into that question, including any number of other American citizens' activities in other countries which may have a political cast.

Q Hodding, does that apply as well to Jones' now reported or purported activities with regard to the Soviet Embassy down there?

A Again, I have seen that report. I am really not going to be able to comment on that beyond just saying that I have noted it.

Again, the desire of American citizens to travel, to go almost anywhere abroad, is an unrestricted right which does set us off from an awful lot of countries.

Q Can you comment either on whether the State Department or intelligence knew about that or whether there is going to be an investigation into that?

A No. I really can't comment on it. Again, if there were an investigation, I couldn't comment on it. So that the question -- you might again apply that one to an investigatory agency. I can't deal with that.

Q Hodding, did you establish, however, whether Soviet officials visited Jonestown or not?

A I have no information on that.

Q Could you tell me what the State Department is trying to do to speed up the process with which this country is receiving the political prisoners Castro is releasing?

A Wait a minute. I have to stay with Guyana. Don't worry. You are going to be there.

Q A couple of quick points.

In 1974 the Department of State negotiated an agreement with Burnham that his Government would allow these cults to settle there.

Now, the first day we had a briefing here Mr. Bushnell indicated that it was mainly the Guyanese Government that wanted the cults. Our information is different, and I was wondering if you could find out -- I mean it was obviously before your tenure here; it was under Kissinger -- but could you find out who negotiated with the Burnham Government and anything that you could make public about that?

A Laura, I am not aware of such an agreement to make it easier for groups to meet. I think that long preceded Jones' interest there.

Q No. 1974.

A '74, yes.

I will see what I can find.

I am just looking over to my source for specificity here.

Q Well, our sources on that are close to the Government of Guyana.

A I will just have to see what I can get.

Q Excuse me. I just have another quick question.

I would like to know who made the decision that the adviser on terrorism to the Secretary of State would not be involved in any investigation of this?

A I am sorry. I wouldn't give out such a decision -- I mean, as to the decision-making process of who does or doesn't participate in working groups or task forces or anything of the sort. You would have to assume that the final authority and responsibility lie where final authority and responsibility lie.

Q Hodding, just to make sure I understand you correctly, what you have said is that despite these 1200 letters and the Congressman's concern enough to go down there, the only investigation ever done by the U.S. Government under the Carter Administration was this Consular person who investigated people in the field?

Are you saying that, or did I misunderstand?

A What I said was the only investigation done in Guyana by an American agency that I am aware of was done by Consular Affairs.

Q What about reports that the CIA had been in there five times?

A I simply am neither aware of it nor could I comment on it. But that would, in fact, be outside their charter, as I understand it. They are not chartered to look into the affairs of American citizens abroad, under the new charter.

But at any rate you might want to check with them.

Is this still on the same subject?

Q No.

A No. In that case, I have a question starting here and then a bunch of other ones.

Q If you would please, sir, update me on the Department's position involving plans to receive the political prisoners from Cuba.

A I think that I commented on that last week and noted that the Department of Justice had indicated that they were looking into ways to deal with what apparently is going to be a considerably heavier stream of political prisoners being released, according to the announcement by Mr. Castro.

Insofar as how that may be accomplished, the Department is not the agency which will, in fact, be responsible in the first instance for that screening or for the release; and, therefore, I would suggest that you ask the Department of Justice, which is.

I don't have anything to announce on that. I think any plans that they have for moving the process along in any way will have to come from them.

Q There has been no suggestion of ways or means from the State Department as to how this process could be speeded up?

A I think that there are consultations that have taken place between us and Justice, and I wouldn't be able to go into what we say or what they say. But we have discussed the matter with them, and I think that we are generally agreed that we want to move this thing forward. But as to how, I don't know.

Q That was my question on the prisoners in Cuba, but I had a little addition. I wonder, when the political prisoners were released in Haiti, a hundred and some were sent back into the population, but several of them, a dozen -- I have lost my figures -- were considered criminals too dangerous to release, and they could only get free by exile -- they were exiled from Haiti -- and then they had to get countries to accept them. Guyana was one that accepted most of them. Now, does that apply in any sense to our Cuban negotiations for prisoners?

A I think the point of the check, obviously, is to determine the identity of the people, to check it against our own information and the information of the exile community and others, as to what it is that they have been held in jail on, and the like. As to the exact one-by-one disposition, I don't know the answer to that; and I think Justice is the best place to deal with the question of who is admissible under our general laws and policy on this. I don't know the answer to that, specifically.



Let me say one other thing. I was just given a note by somebody who was in the Working Group. Any inquiries from next of kin concerning deceased at Dover should be directed to the Department's Working Group here. No information will be released from Dover.

The next of kin should call us on these lines: 632-3172 and 632-6610.

In addition, relatives are advised not to go to Dover, as there are no accommodations either on or off base to handle them.

Q What is the status of the U.S. relations with Bolivia after the military coup over there, and what is the view of the State Department on this new situation in that country?

A Our best information from the Embassy does confirm that a military coup led by General David Padilla, Commander of the Army, has taken over the government of Air Force General Juan Pereda. We understand all major cities in Bolivia remain calm, and the safety of Americans in that country has not been threatened.

We have not received any reports of disturbances or opposition. We don't have an official reaction to what has taken place. We will continue to monitor the situation in Bolivia very closely over the next few days.

While we are monitoring developments there, we continue through the Embassy to maintain day-to-day relationships with the technical, working levels of the Government of Bolivia.

I can give you the old litany again about the question of recognition does not arise, which is invoked again here.

Obviously we hope that the bloodless nature of this coup will continue; that is, that there would be no bloodletting. There are no reports that we have seen or are aware of of widespread arrests or violations of individual human rights.

Q Hodding, do you want to take a filing break for people who don't have very long.

A Whatever you want.

Q The International has put out a report on human rights conditions in China.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DPC 222

TRANSCRIPT OF DAILY BRIEFING  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1978  
(ON THE RECORD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

MR. CARTER: Good afternoon.

I have no announcements. George Sherman, Sec. of State, will be handling peace in our time at 1:00.

Q Hodding, on the Guyana costs situation, as of last Friday, I think we were told it was about two to three million dollars, not counting military salaries. Have you got any updated figure?

A No, I don't. I think the decision is going to be at this point, for some of the reasons that the Deputy Assistant Secretary mentioned, which was methodological, but also because it is a cumulative business. We're not going to have any preliminary figures. We will try to give you the final figure when the figure is available, that is accumulated.

Q Do you know when the survivors are coming back?

A No, I don't.

Q Do you know what's going to happen to Jones' body at Dover?

A I don't think I do. Let me say something sort of generally on the question of disposition of remains, however, which may go to that and other questions. We are not going to be giving out information, out of this building, on that question. If relatives or other members who are responsible wish to do so, they can, and obviously will; but we will not be in that position.

Q What about the unidentified or unclaimed ones that have no relatives or others?

A The question of what is going to happen with the unidentified, the disposition, is one which is being considered. Obviously we are going to try to treat them with dignity, and the question of their disposition in the Dover area will be decided in consultation, obviously, with folk in that area as well.

Now, on the unclaimed but identified?

Q Yes.

A I think, again, as I understand it, the probable result will be that they will be interred, disposed of, in the Dover area also.

Q At Government expense? Bushnell was asked about this the other day; and as I understood he said at Government expense, they would bury the unidentified in the Dover area.

A I don't see any reason to change that answer.

Q When I asked you how the survivors were coming back, you say you don't know. Do you know when they will be coming back?

A Let me try to focus this one: On the individuals who may choose to go home their own way, no, the answer is I don't know. On the question that I believe Marvin asked me yesterday -- that is, a plane load possibility coming to Charleston -- I don't have anything to add to that. That is to say, there isn't any plane today; at this point, probably not tomorrow; and to repeat, we do plan to bring survivors to Charleston in a group, if a group so wishes, assuming that such a substantial number have the permission of the Guyanese Government to leave and wish to go to the United States by that means. But as of now, there isn't a planned trip to Charleston.

Q Hodding, how many would have to express interest to fly on a U.S. Air Force plane?

A I don't know.

Q And what is going to happen to them when they get to Charleston? Will they be questioned by the FBI or --?

A I don't know. I think all of those questions also bear, for instance, on what's happening in Guyana; that is, answers to them would bear on what happened to them in Guyana, and it would also have to do with who they are. I don't know the answer, and I'm not sure it's that clear, because at least one survivor, I know, has come back and proceeded on.

Q Just one more question: Since they found about 870 passports, those people who are not taking advantage of the offer, how are they flying back to the U.S. if they are? Are they getting new passports from the Embassy or --?

A They are obviously having to be cleared out somehow. I'll have to take that question as to whether they are getting their old passports back or whether they are getting something new issued. I'll take that question.

Q Hodding, what was the reason you gave for not giving out any preliminary figures?

A Simply because it is a matter of personal privacy which we do not believe the Government ought to intrude on.

Q No. I meant on the costs.

A Oh, on the cost.

Q You gave some reason for not giving out any preliminary --

A Simply because, one is that it has not been accumulated; two, I am not sure that the situation has changed since last week when Mr. Bushnell indicated that the question of sorting out how you do the actuarial work. I'm not sure that has been decided, that is, do you charge against this mission the expense of people who were otherwise on the payroll, whether this mission went forward or not? Do you charge against various aspects of it?

Q Hodding, has there been any consideration given to charging some of these costs against the assets of the cult, and if not that, against these bags of money that keep turning up as people were apparently extorted by their leaders?

A I had a variation on that, Barry, yesterday. I thought I took it, because I didn't have the answer then. I certainly don't, unfortunately, have that answer now. The basic question you want is --

Q The basic question is: To what extent does the United States' humanitarian concerns mean that the taxpayer has to pay the cost of this enormous expense, and I suppose it is getting to be much greater than you anticipated?

A I'm sure it is. • It's substantial.

Q Now, the Guyana Government has recovered all sorts of funds that have been turned over to the Government of Guyana, and I wondered if there has been any consideration of maybe diverting some of those funds to pay for some of these expenses.

A I would say generally that that would be easier said than done, since the funds are held in another country and the disposition of them and the ownership of them and all the rest has not, I think, been totally determined, first. Second, insofar as finding some way to assess costs, I do not believe that that one has been addressed directly. I think that the feeling was that the necessity, for various reasons, from identification, investigation, and others, was that we had to get the bodies out to the place.

I will take, again, that question.

Q Hodding, this may be a question that you will have to take, too, but I wonder if you could clarify for us the whole subject of the autopsy on Jones. Apparently, the Justice Department says the United States has no plans to call for an autopsy. On the other hand, officials in Delaware have indicated that before he could be cremated, they would have to have one. In view of the intense interest in this, doesn't it seem logical that they would want to know what was the cause of death, especially since he is the only one who had been shot?

A Barry, on that one, I think you'll get a faster answer from Justice than me.

Q We have an answer from Justice which says there are no plans for autopsy.

A Yes, but that, frankly speaking, is a legal question. I mean the State Department's responsibility doesn't run to that end.

Q Hodding, it's clear now that the Peoples Temple was a communist group. They were negotiating or considering moving to the USSR or Cuba, and I have two questions on this: One, did the Department have in its files any information on the political orientation of this group before this tragedy? And were any steps taken to alert Mrs. Carter, Vice-President Mondale, Members of Congress, and other high-level officials who had endorsed Jones and his group, about this orientation?

A Well, I think that while the record will necessarily show your designation, I can't make that characterization myself as to what it was.

Q You can't?

A I cannot.

Q You don't have any information yet that would identify them as such?

A No. I cannot on evidence that I have, and certainly not on some letters and what other stuff that I've seen in the press make such a designation on the characterization.

Q Excuse me. On that point --

A On the characterization.

Q Do you dispute --

A No, as a matter of fact, I don't have to dispute it, Reed.

Q On that point --

A I don't have to dispute it, Reed.

Q On that point --

A I'm just telling you I am not able to address that characterization.

Q Are you disputing --

A I'm not able to comment on that characterization.

Q Are you aware of the fact they were negotiating with the Soviet Union for a move to the Soviet Union?

A I've seen reports to that end.

Q You don't dispute that.

A I've seen reports to that end. I am not --

Q You are neither confirming nor denying it?

A I cannot. On the question of the Carter thing, that does go back to '76, and the Mrs. Carter letter, the Campaign of '76. The others, there is some dispute as to whether they exist or not, that is whether such letters or endorsements were written.

Q Do I take it your answer is that you had no information about the political orientation of this group and therefore, you made no effort to alert anybody to it?

A I expect that there were a number of allegations made, as allegations are often made, by questioners as well as by letter-writers about various aspects of that particular organization, so I can't say. I'm simply not able to comment on that question as to whether or not there was information alledging that particular aspect of their behavior, i.e. that they were somehow communist.

Q But Mr. McCoy who made numerous visits there never got any inclination or indication that they were a communist group?

A No. As a matter of fact, I don't think that was ever one of the questions that was raised to us about that group.

Q Independently, it wouldn't have occurred to him to look into that?

A No. As a matter of fact, independently, that probably would have been a question that if it were raised by a government official, ordinarily about Americans individually or abroad, where it might be considered to be one that you don't raise.

Q I see. You wouldn't raise it?

A I didn't say you wouldn't.

Q You'd avoid that issue.

A I said it might ordinarily be one that you would think twice about, particularly in the absence of any allegation.

Q I see. Now, a second question on that same point: Second question, have any of the survivors, since they had indicated an interest in going to the Soviet Union or Cuba before the tragedy, have any of the survivors requested that they go to one of those countries

or another communist country rather than return to the United States?

A I'm not aware of such a request. As a matter of fact, I think they are still trying to sort out most of them, what they are going to do and how they are going to do it.

Q Did you take the question yet about who would be paying for the survivors, if they do come back singly or as a group?

A Yes, I did. Did I get an answer?

VOICE: The survivors will refund the money to the government. They have signed papers saying that.

MR. CARTER: They have signed a paper which is a fairly standard form for indigents and others in that category who are abroad, that they are tasked with it.

Q What?

A That they are tasked with paying back the money and writing a pledge that they will.

Q Hodding, the Department has now had a day to look over this Amnesty International report on human rights in China --

A All right. I'll take it. Just a minute. Anything else on Guyana?

Q Maybe you responded to this earlier, but do you know whether the State Department in any way or any aid in any way went to this group down there, State Department aid? There was some report in The New York Times or somewhere which suggested that U.S. aid in some way had been funneled?

A To the best of my knowledge, Allen, there has been no U.S. aid funneled to that group, but Social Security checks to folks and that sort of thing.

Q But that's not what I mean, no.

A No. I even saw it suggested somewhere -- I don't know where -- that we bought the land or something.



Q I just wanted to know whether that had been checked out. Has that been looked into at all?

A Yes. I mean, we have no evidence of that.

Q Hodding, is it an ordinary situation when an American citizen dies in another country, for that country to keep the money?

A I think they would ordinarily investigate exactly to whom it belongs and make a disposition accordingly. I don't think, however, this is not --

Q The foreign government would keep the money, normally, in that type of situation?

A No. I don't think I know what "normal" is. This is a fairly abnormal situation.

Q Hodding, is there anything further on the allegation that a half a million dollars was to be delivered to the Soviet Embassy, together with a letter, and that that letter is in the possession of the Guyana Government?

A I think almost all of these things, going back to what I said yesterday, allegations of various sorts which have surfaced, letters, reports, various officials saying things, they are all in the status of a matter which is being investigated, and that I am not going to be able to comment on it until the investigation is through. And in any case, insofar as any aspects which have to do with legal questions, that is, illegal activities or the like, are going to have to be answered by the appropriate legal authorities and not State.

Q But you haven't been able to find out whether the Guyana authorities have that letter or -- ?

A No. What I'm saying is that at this point, I'm not going to be able to comment on most aspects of the investigation of this matter. I can comment a great deal about what it is that we are trying to do ~~with~~ the victims and that sort of thing; but in terms of what is being investigated, I'm not going to be able to comment.

Q Do you want to do the Amnesty International? I have another one.

A Sure. What do you want?

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DPC 223

TRANSCRIPT OF DAILY BRIEFING  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1978  
(ON THE RECORD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

MR. CARTER: Good afternoon.

Secretary Vance will travel to Europe December 6 to 10. He will depart Washington December 5 to head the United States delegation to the 62nd Semi-Annual Ministerial Meeting of the North Atlantic Council December 7 to 8 in Brussels. On the evening of the 6th he will participate in the traditional quadripartite meeting on Berlin. That obviously means we are leaving early on the morning of the 6th.

The Secretary will travel to London on December 8, and will deliver an address under the sponsorship of the Royal Institute of International Affairs on December 9. He will return to Washington December 10. We posted a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Press Office for those of you who may be interested in traveling with the Secretary. We will take it down early tomorrow afternoon. So, if you want to be on the Secretary's plane, please sign up as soon as possible. There are no planned additions to that trip.

Q Are you going with him?

A A representative of this office will be going with him.

Q What is the subject of the speech?

A The subject of the speech, as I understand it from draft form, is the U.S. relations in connection with, and interest in, Europe.

Q Will there be a text in advance?

A There will be a text.

Q Guyana.

A All right.

Q Any word on when the survivors will be traveling?

A No. I don't.

Q There is a report that seven will be traveling to New York tonight.

A Jeff, do you have anything on that?

MR. DIETERICH: We are not providing any transportation for the people that are reportedly traveling in today or tomorrow.

Q Do you know that they are, in fact, that there will be seven traveling on commercial flights?

MR. DIETERICH: I am just not in a position to confirm for you the travel plans of American citizens overseas.

Q Hodding, on Guyana, it seems that the Washington Star's cartoonist also is suggesting that perhaps the church whose minister is responsible might consider paying what he indicated was \$8 million.

Is that an accurate figure for costs of this body transportation in bringing back survivors, or is it still at three or what?

A I think I said yesterday I am really not going to sort of give a running total until we have a total. I don't know. I am not going to quarrel with anybody's figures.

Q Who is estimating? I mean where can we find out what the total of all this body transportation and survivor transportation is? Is there one agency that is handling it?

A I think that I will release it as fast as anybody will. Obviously a great bulk of the burden is being taken by Defense.

Q In that connection, Hodding, is the money coming out of the Defense budget or is it allocated to the various agencies? How is it working?

A This is obviously an unprecedented event, in which we have worked to carry out a number of different purposes involving a number of different Federal agencies. We now have intensive inter-agency

deliberations under way to sort out the issues and that specific one, obviously, is one of them; and we expect to have answers within the next few days.

Q Hodding, does the State Department still think there are no terrorist implications in this whole situation?

A I am really not going to comment on matters such as that. There is a full review under way. There are legal questions involved; and I am really not going to be giving observations on that point at this time.

Q Hodding, going back to the survivors and their travel plans, maybe I could approach the question from a different angle.

Considering the special nature of these individuals, is the Government planning any special Customs and/or Immigration service, and what port of entry might that special service be set up at?

A I don't know anything about it.

MR. DIETERICH: Again we are in the problem of confirming people's travel plans, which we cannot do at any rate.

Q You can talk about the Government's plans?

MR. DIETERICH: Yes.

At any rate, if you are discussing matters involving what happens to the people in the airport, it certainly would appear to me that is a matter you have to take up with the Justice Department and HEW, the people that have responsibility once these people are in the United States.

A I don't know if this was posted or not.

On the question of costs and money and funds, as part of the process of addressing a whole range of legal questions which have arisen relating to this tragedy, the State Department is considering the possibility of trying to claim some of the funds or property found in Guyana. This is obviously a complex legal matter which will have to be sorted out.

A member of the Legal Staff of the State Department traveled to Guyana yesterday to assist the

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Embassy in addressing this wide range of legal issues.

Insofar as Peoples Temple funds in the United States are concerned, this is, in fact, a question that ought to be addressed to the Department of Justice or state officials.

Q That wasn't actually my question. I was thinking they have kind of taken all their funds. What I was thinking about was 1.3 million members of the Disciples of Christ who licensed this guy, ordained him, accepted money from him year after year.

A I think you raised it before and I think the answer to that is no, I know of no plans to go to the court.

Q No plans.

The reason I ask this -- if I could follow-up -- the Supreme Court has just ruled, as I understand it, that the inhabitants of several Methodist retirement centers now have a right to sue the entire Methodist Church. And I would see no reason why the State Department should saddle the taxpayers --

A In any case, Les, actually that isn't a question that the State Department would deal with again.

Q I see. The Department of Justice.

A It is a domestic matter.

Q When you talk about getting money back from Guyana, how much money are you talking about?

A I don't know the exact figure. I think that is still being put together.

Q And you don't literally mean from Guyana; do you?

A No. I mean the money that is there, which is in various hands.

Q That is what I was going to ask you.

You don't have a figure of how much has been recovered down there?

A I don't have a figure.

Q I think you said the other day the United States was not considering trying to recover funds from the Peoples Temple here?

A Yes.

Q That may be changed?

A No. I say that is a matter that I can't address that I am being asked.

Let me go through something which, in fact, I think the Working Group and others would just like me to say again.

On the question of people coming here under our auspices, i.e. being flown to Charleston specifically, there will be a military flight of survivors from Guyana to the United States if and when there is a large enough group of people eligible to leave Guyana who wish to travel in such a group. It is impossible for us at this time to predict the timing of that flight. It now appears for your planning purposes unlikely that it will happen before the end of this week.

And when a decision is made to schedule such a flight, the State Department will make every effort to notify major news organizations at least twelve hours in advance.

Now, as to whether it is definitely going to be Charleston that they come to — that is our present plan, assuming there is a group — it is possible, and again we will try to let you know, they will have to entertain other possibilities.

The problem about giving you a time is essentially bound up in two points.

First, we can't be sure when the Guyanese Government is going to allow some of these people to leave Guyana.

Second, we have to then ascertain what the wishes are of the people themselves. They have the ultimate right to decide how and when they will return to the United States, if at all.

Q The pledge you talked about yesterday of reimbursing the government would apply to such an airlift; wouldn't it?

A I believe that all return flights in which the people don't have the cash in hand carries with it a standard form or pledge of reimbursement.

Q Hodding, over the last few years my publications have obtained documents largely from government agencies through FOIA requests. They document that this cult and other cults like it are not religious, but were deliberate synthetic creations part of a series of projects that included the MK-ultra operation, that was run through British intelligence control over a section of the CIA, was run through Aldous Huxley and Gregory Bates out of Palo Alto, California. Since this information is in the hands of various Government agencies, is the State Department looking at the angle that perhaps this was not a religion at all and, therefore, does not come under the kinds of rights that a religion would have?

A And I would like to raise the question again of the terrorist implications, because it appears now that that information is being brought out by people who want to give a cover to the outbreak of terrorism as some kind of spontaneous uprising by these kinds of cults.

A Now, this is a very serious question, and I think the State Department has avoided it for two weeks.

A I think it is a serious question. I think questions were asked seriously yesterday, alleging something considerably different, which is the possibility of being Communist inspired and run.

A I mean there are any number of possibilities. My problem with all of these, Laura, is that we are in the process of an ongoing investigation of a rather unprecedented, dramatic and tragic event, and I can't sit here and give a running commentary on how that investigation is going.

Q The point is -- excuse me -- John Bushnell originally said that they were not investigating the terrorist implication.

A Look, obviously all aspects of this case will be pursued.

Q Hodding, as far as the people going into New York this evening, why are those people arriving on a commercial flight, and why might the others not arrive on a commercial flight?

A I don't know. In each case it will have to do with their own cash possibilities, i.e. that they can afford perhaps to fly commercially and, therefore, wish to do so immediately as opposed --

Q Our understanding is that the seven people coming into New York this evening were receiving funds from the State Department to make that commercial flight. Is that true?

A Without addressing the question of whether the seven people are coming in tonight or anything else, I think that the arrangements that are made on the individuals are just simply up to each one to make for themselves based on their own cash possibility.

It is my understanding that we have not made funds available to those who fly commercially.

Q Hodding, do you know if the Government of Guyana has any claims on these funds of the Peoples Temple for expenses that that Government may have had?

A That is a good question. I do not know whether they have, in fact, put forward a claim. I will take that question; whether they have suggested that they have a claim on some of that money for their own costs.

Q Hodding, has the 1.3 million member Disciples of Christ made any offer to the State Department or any other Government agency to help pay for the cost of bringing these bodies or people back?

A To my knowledge, no, and, frankly, Les, I don't think that they would --

Q Would you turn it down if they did, Hodding?

A We would not turn down any money.

Q You won't turn down any money. Okay.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DPC 225

TRANSCRIPT OF DAILY BRIEFING  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1978  
(ON THE RECORD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

MR. RESTON: All right, ladies and gentlemen.  
I have a couple of statements to make.

The White House will commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 12:00 noon on December 6. Several hundred representatives of non-governmental organizations active in the human rights field, as well as representatives of the civil rights movement, the labor movement and the United States Congress, will join the President on this occasion.

The National Security Adviser, Mr. Brzezinski, and the Deputy Secretary of State, Mr. Warren Christopher, will discuss United States human rights policy and answer questions on the policy from the audience.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted on December 10, 1948, by the United Nations. A Presidential proclamation marking this day was released to the press by the White House on November 28, and we have copies of it if you would like.

And I have another statement, if there are no questions.

Since the attack on Congressman Ryan in the tragic events at Jonestown, the Department of State has carefully examined the record of its actions with respect to the People's Temple community and the Jonestown community. A great deal of this information has been shared with the press from this podium or through direct contacts with our Guyanese Task Force. It is absolutely clear from the record that the Department of State and our Embassy at Georgetown have discharged their responsibilities fully and conscientiously within the limits placed upon the Department and the Embassy by law and basic constitutional guarantees of the right to privacy.

In fact, we believe it is safe to say that more attention has been devoted by the United States Government to this particular group of Americans living overseas over the past 18 months than to any other group of Americans living abroad.

In the course of five separate visits to Jonestown, Consular Officers checked out specific allegations of mistreatment which had been received in more than 50 cases. To my knowledge, every specific allegation attached to a specific individual which was received by the Department or the Embassy was checked by interviewing the supposed victims. In no case did the supposed victims confirm the allegations.

In addition, the Consular Officers did what they could to confirm or refute the general charges that had appeared in the press and elsewhere about conditions in Jonestown through their own observations and by consulting with their opposite numbers in Guyanese law enforcement agencies. Once again, our Consular Officers and our diplomats were unable to confirm these charges.

Do I have questions about this statement or about any press items this morning?

Q Yes. As you no doubt know, there were several specific charges made by family members and lawyers in San Francisco.

A Yes.

Q Specifically -- do you want me to go through them?

A Would you, please?

Q O.K. One was that one Consular Officer had discouraged any further investigation and attempts to do anything about the People's Temple group. He's identified as Richard McCoy, who is alleged by Mrs. Blakey not to make her assertions of oppression and possible mass suicide public to the press. Do you want to do that one first?

A Well, let me give you the background of Mr. McCoy's dealings with Mrs. Blakey.

Mr. McCoy had two conversations with Mrs. Blakey. The first conversation was on the plane going to the United States from Guyana; and the second conversation which the two individuals held with each other

was several days later after their return to the United States. That conversation was on the telephone with Mr. McCoy when he was back here in Washington.

The conversation on the plane -- the first conversation -- discussed several things, and Mrs. Blakey wondered whether she should go to the press with her allegations.

Mr. McCoy's response was that he wasn't sure it would help, but it was for her to decide whether she should go to the press.

Now, during the second conversation, Mrs. Blakey said that she felt she had to do something about what she knew, and she reiterated her question of whether she should go to the press with it.

Mr. McCoy responded that she should make her own decision, but he felt that at that point it wasn't going to solve anything really, since the press reports up to that date had not helped to finally resolve the issue. He strongly recommended that she contact appropriate Federal law enforcement agencies to report what she knew in hopes that they would be able to uncover corroborating evidence that could be forwarded to our Embassy in Georgetown and turned over to the Government of Guyana with an official request to investigate People's Temple activities in that country.

Q He asked her to contact Federal law enforcement agencies?

A Yes.

Q What would prevent him from contacting Federal law enforcement agencies?

A Nothing would prevent him.

Q Is that regarded as a lapse on his part?

A I really don't have an answer to that question. I have not heard that question discussed.

Q But you say in your opening statement that the Department of State and its Embassy and Consular officials fully discharged their duties. I just wonder whether that question had been raised -- that if he received allegations of criminal misconduct in an area that is his responsibility to his country, whether he should not have gone to Federal law enforcement agencies.

A Well, I think the answer to your question is that I have not heard that question discussed.

Q Tom --

Q O.K., are you finished?

Q Wait. Can I follow up then?

A Yes.

Q O.K. Another specific allegation is that --

Q Excuse me. Just one thing, Jim: Do you have dates on those?

A No, but I'll be happy to try to get you dates.

Q On those two conversations?

A I will be happy to check and see when Mr. McCoy returned from Guyana and will see whether we can get you specific dates.

Go ahead, Jim.

Q A specific allegation, another one, is that the State Department was warned: "It would be possible for Jones to effect a mass suicide." The lawyers in this case say they simply received no reply to the warning from the State Department.

A Now, is this the affidavit you're talking about?

Q Yes, on June 15.

A Yes, this is the affidavit.

Just a minute. I'm sorry, I'm going to have to take that question. Could somebody go and see whether they could find me that? It's just not in my packet. Maybe I've got it here.

Thanks, Kate.

I don't know whether the Department responded to the lawyers who had sent us the affidavit. If we did not respond, then we are at fault for not responding.

But let me say, with regard to the affidavit, that it repeated charges which had previously been brought to our attention; but it did not provide specific information such as names, places, and other facts which might have been useful to law enforcement officials.

Mrs. Blakey had been advised by the U.S. Consul to report her information to appropriate Federal law enforcement agencies in the United States. We do not know whether she in fact did so -- whether she in fact reported her allegations -- but it is our understanding that law enforcement officials in the United States were in contact with defectors from the People's Temple community in advance of Congressman Ryan's visit.

She did in fact send her affidavit to our Embassy in Georgetown, and she sent it to the Government of Guyana. I do not know whether we responded to this particular affidavit which was sent to us. I will check that for you.

Q How come you don't know? You just haven't searched it yet or --

A I just don't know whether we did or not. I know that in the case of a letter regarding the child custody case of Mrs. Stone there was an error on the part of the State Department in that we did not respond to one particular bit of correspondence and that we are simply at fault.

Q Tom, what would be the appropriate law enforcement agency that one would report crimes being committed in Guyana to?

A Well, let me say there are a number of agencies here. For instance, I think at the Treasury Department we suggested that she get in touch with the Customs people and with the Bureau of -- I think it's Alcohol, Firearms, and Tobacco. That would be in regard to charges of gunrunning or Customs violations. And I think we also suggested the FBI and the Department of Justice.

Q Does the FBI have any jurisdiction over things that are going on in Guyana?

A Well, that would depend on the particular allegations. As a matter of law, obviously the Guyanese are in control of their own territory; but it is possible that some activities by American citizens abroad conceivably could violate United States law.

Q Tom, this may have been gone over in the past, but did you say the State Department's action, when advised of specific allegations that people were being held against their will and so on, was to send Mr. McCoy out or whoever else out to interview them in the field? If there were allegations that a crime was being committed in Guyana, should not Mr. McCoy have sent or asked the Guyanese police to send out investigators to investigate the possibility of a crime on their soil rather than try to determine on his own from his own information where a crime was being committed? Was that done?

A Well, as I believe we have said, we have discussed with the Guyanese certain aspects of what was going on at the People's Temple community. We have discussed, for instance, the child custody case and queried the Guyanese authorities as to whether that case was moving through the Guyanese courts in a timely fashion.

Q What I'm talking about is allegations of criminal conduct in Guyana -- which is out of the province, I suppose, of U.S. investigation authorities. It would seem to me that if such charges are made, the Embassy or somebody, or the Department here, should ask the Guyanese police authorities to investigate it. That's their territory. Was that done?

A I'll have to take that question.

Q Isn't Mr. McCoy here?

A Yes, Mr. McCoy is here.

Q I mean right here in the briefing room? You've taken at least three questions regarding him. Could he not possibly be brought up to answer these questions himself?

A No, that will not be possible. We have discussed that matter this morning. We have already made responsible officials of the State Department available to the press to discuss this matter, but it will not be possible to make Mr. McCoy available.

Q Why not, Tom?

Q Does he have laryngitis or --

A No, he doesn't have laryngitis. I was talking with him this morning.

Q Has he been told not to speak to the press? Was he been told not to answer press queries?

A The decision has been made that we will not make him available here in the briefing.

Q Is that his wish or yours?

A It is a decision on behalf of the State Department. There have been charges made about Mr. McCoy's activities and the carrying out of his responsibilities as a Consular Officer.

There were some earlier charges made. They were investigated, and they turned out to be without foundation. If other charges, additional charges are made, they too will be investigated. But merely because a charge appears about a Foreign Service Officer in the newspaper, that does not place upon us an obligation to produce the particular individual to submit to questioning.

We are proceeding with this matter in the most businesslike manner possible.

Q Tom, I understand that the intelligence officials have information that the People's Temple is buying off two ministers of the Guyanese Government. I'm wondering, when was this information known? Was it known to intelligence prior to this incident or has it become known since?

A Reed, I have no information about that; and, as you know, I don't discuss intelligence matters.

Q Well, if it was known to the State Department that two ministers in the Guyanese Government were being bought off, that would be a factor in the thoroughness of the kind of investigation that could be conducted, wouldn't it?

A Reed, I have nothing on it.

Yes, John.

Q Tom, I'll ask you two questions.

Do you happen to know if the letter that Congressman Ryan wrote to Secretary Vance on December 7, 1977, in which he requested that Mr. Jones' passport be lifted and that Jones be returned to the United States in compliance with a court order from the Superior Court of California -- if that letter was ever turned over to the Justice Department or to the FBI to find out if in fact there were grounds for extradition?

A I do not know. I certainly will check that question for you.

Q Then secondly, if you could: The Guyana judge, according to Ryan's aides, in the child custody case said that he dropped the case because he received death threats, assassination threats, from the Jonestown community and that that was the reason the case was never decided in Guyana.

A The judge dropped the case?

Q That's right.

A Or the judge says that he refused to make a decision in the case?

Q Well, he refused to make a decision in the case.

Can you find out if the State Department was aware of that at the time?

A I will try to find that out. I don't know whether I can, but I will try to find that out.

Q Other subjects?

Q No, the same subject.

Q Have you talked to Mr. McCoy about the charges? Apparently the San Francisco Chronicle this morning has a story saying that McCoy warned Jim Jones about -- this is from Mrs. Blakey and her two attorneys -- that McCoy warned Jones about impending visits and told him who would be interviewed; also that Jones provided women to members of the Embassy for sexual purposes and also to members of the Guyanese Government.

And one other thing I'd like to ask: Mr. Bushnell, when he was briefing us last week on this, I feel made it very clear that in all interviews with anybody from Jonestown, including two who had left, no one had ever said there were problems in Jonestown. Now, you're telling us that Mrs. Blakey did tell Mr. McCoy there were problems, and to me that's kind of a new thing.

I think you can go back to the records and verify this.

A Yes, I understand what you're saying.



First, with regard to the allegation which has been made about sexual compromise, we have previously dealt with that question from this podium, I believe.

Second -- let's see; you've got so many questions in there.

Q What was the answer to the second on compromise? I'm sorry; I wasn't here when they dealt with that. I never was aware of it.

A Well, during the initial interviews of People's Temple survivors, the Department became aware of hearsay allegations that an American Embassy official in Georgetown had been sexually compromised by a People's Temple member. The Department has investigated this particular allegation, using the sources available at that time, and has found the allegations to be without substance. The officer against whom the allegation was made has executed a sworn statement categorically denying any sexual misconduct in Georgetown. The Department of State --

Q What about in Jonestown?

A All right. Let me finish this and then I'll see whether --

Q Or intervening points. (Laughter.)

A Yes, all right. Let me see if I can clear up that question for you, but let me finish what I have to say about this.

The Department of State, as a matter of practice, follows up all possible leads in this kind of an allegation. There are still potential investigative sources, and the Department of State will follow them up as well.

Now, you had a variety of other questions which --

Q Before you leave that one, Tom, did he take a lie-box test?

A I don't know.

Q Tom, on that same thing --

A I will try to clear up the question which you raised, Reed.

Q Which is to say?

A The Georgetown question.

Q When you say the Department has investigated this, is getting the sworn statement from the individual against whom the allegation was made the only rebuttal that the Department has gotten? Or has it gotten statements from other people who were in a position to know who have rebutted that allegation?

A It is my understanding that there is more to the investigation than just simply accepting an affidavit from the individual involved or said to be involved.

Q Tom, isn't it charged that the Jonestown people recorded both audio and photographic evidence of this and has that been discovered?

A I know of no such evidence.

Now, you had some more questions.

Q Okay.

Let's go to the one where I think we have a new development here from what Mr. Bushnell was saying and what you are saying.

A Yes.

Let me make clear that what Mr. Bushnell was saying was with regard to activity which took place in Jonestown. What Mrs. Blakey --

Q No.

A It is my understanding. It is the visits of the Consular Officers of the American Embassy at Georgetown, their visits to Jonestown, which produced no corroboration of the allegations which had been made.

What happened between Mrs. Blakey and Mr. McCoy happened on the plane from Georgetown leaving Guyana and coming to the United States. It was not in the Jonestown area.

Q I think if you check the transcript -- and I would have to guess on the day, either Tuesday or Wednesday of last week -- you will find that he talked about a plane flight in which a Consular Officer was on board with a defector, and that in that flight she never mentioned anything about any problems.

A All right. I will be happy to make available the transcript to you; and if there is a contradiction between what I am saying and what Mr. Bushnell was saying, we will clear it up.

Q He talked about two defectors, one up at Matthews Ridge and one in Georgetown who was stationed in Georgetown, and that had to be Mrs. Blakey.

A If you will show me the transcript and I am contradicting what Mr. Bushnell said, we will find out who is mistaken.

Q Tom, on the original question asked, I think there was one other element of it, which was the allegations that Mr. McCoy warned Jones not only about what Mrs. Blakey had said but also about impending visits by Consular Officers and who would be interviewed in those visits?

A I will take that question.

Q Another subject?

Q No. Same subject.

Tom, on Jonestown, there is some question about how this community was supported financially. Have we now been able to discover what kind of cash crops they were producing and is there any evidence that drugs or other illegal activities were being carried on there?

A I haven't seen any evidence of drug trafficking or drug usage on behalf of these particular people.

Q What did they produce? I mean, what was found?

A Let me see if I can find out what their agricultural activity was.

Q Tom, there particularly seems to be some contradiction, I think, between whether the agricultural production of Jonestown was enough to even sustain the 900 or so people that were living there. There were some reports that it was and plus there was a surplus that they could give to the Guyanese Government or sell or whatever. And there are other reports that there wasn't.

Do you have something right now that you can say to clear that up?

A I don't have anything right now that would clear that up, but let me kind of add that to the previous question which I took -- whether we have a judgment to render on that question.

Q Tom, could I go back to the original statement?

In whose name was that read? Is that the U.S. spokesman saying the Department discharged its duties, or did the Secretary of State authorize it or the Administration, White House level?

A It is I, as the Spokesman of the Department of State making the statement, and you can assume that people at the highest levels of this Department have seen it.

Q I just wondered if that statement was drafted with or without consideration of some of the questions that were raised here today, such as whether the Guyanese police were asked to investigate or whether Mr. McCoy warned the Temple of impending visits, and so on?

A I don't know because I have not gone through every consideration which the drafter of the statement had when he drafted the statement. It is a statement on behalf of the Department.

Q Just for a clarification, at least for me.

Did you say that Mr. McCoy is in the room now?

A No. I am sorry. He is here in the Department. He is not in the room.

Q I assume you have given us all you have on this investigation of a sexual compromise allegation.

A That is right. I have.

Q Can you take a question and ask if the Department -- I mean, so far as I can tell, presumably most of the witnesses to this act would have been dead by now. Can you take a question and see if the Department can provide any other information as to why they are satisfied, if they are in fact satisfied, that this allegation is groundless?

A I am not really confident that I would be able to get you a detailed answer to that kind of a question. That would involve methods of investigation and that sort of thing, and I don't think that is something that the Department probably would wish to discuss.

Q So, you are asking us to take it on faith that you have got something besides the denial by the individual involved?

A Part of my statement was that there are other investigative sources which are still being checked with. But as of this time, or as of the time that this statement was drafted, we believe the charges to be without substance.

Q You also said that you had corroborating sources already of some kind without going into any detail, and I would just be interested in any detail you could provide.

A I understand you would. But you have to understand that I am very doubtful that the Department would wish to disclose its methods of investigation.

Q Tom, could you just take the simple question of whether or not the person involved has submitted to a lie detector examination?

A No, I don't think I'll take that question.

Q One more. The Times story said this morning, quoting I believe Mrs. Blakey, that relations between the Jonestown people and the American Embassy in Georgetown were "extremely close."

Could you confirm, deny or comment in some way on that?

A I am kind of in a quandary because I don't know what the maker of the statement means by extremely close. I did say in my statement earlier --

Q Forget about what she said. Do you have your own characterization about how the relations between the two were?

A I said earlier that it is safe to say that more attention was paid by the American Embassy to this particular group of Americans living abroad than to any other group of Americans living abroad. We did visit the community with Consular visits, as we have told you before.

I don't have a characterization of the official relations between the American Embassy at Georgetown and the People's Temple community.

Q Could you take the question of how many times Mr. McCoy spoke with Reverend Jones, roughly?

A I think we have already put out the number of times that Consular Officers went to Jonestown.

Now, I will now take the question which you asked me to and find out whether there were additional meetings, say in Georgetown, or whether there were talks over the telephone. I don't even know whether they had telephones there.

Q Tom, on the side issue about the lie detector, what did you just say — that you didn't want to answer that question?

A No. I said I don't want to take and will not take the question about whether a lie detector was used.

Q Well, can you take the general question, which I thought had been answered last year, as to whether lie detection tests are being used in this building any more on Foreign Service Officers?

A I will check the record to see whether we have an answer to that question.

Q Well, just the general one: Are lie detector tests now being applied to FSOs or anybody else working in this building when a person's word is involved here?

A I will look at the record to see whether we have a policy on that.

Q Okay.

Q Tom, did you identify the officer who made the sworn statement?

A No.

Q You didn't say it was McCoy?

A No.

Q Wait a minute. Could I just follow that up, please?

Is there a reason for that?

A Yes.

Q Which is?

A A charge is made. We do not believe the charge is of substance, and we do not want to identify the person against whom the charge was made.

Q You may have already answered this question in a previous briefing, but what is the official position of this Government on whether or not autopsies should be performed on these 900 bodies?

A That is really a question for the Justice Department.

Q Tom, when if ever will the correspondence from the Embassy to the Department regarding Jonestown be made available to the public or the press?

A I don't know. We are working on that at the moment.

Q One other thing.

Have you found out yet what happened to the \$500,000 and the note to the Soviet Embassy that was allegedly sent?

A I don't think I have anything to offer on that.

I don't know what the disposition of that is. If you want me to take that question, I will.

Q I would appreciate it if you would, yes.

A Other subjects?

Q Yes.

Tom, can you at all amplify the President's statement yesterday on what kind of assurances you have from the Soviet Government on these MIG-23s?

A No. I have nothing new to add to what the President said.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DPC 226

TRANSCRIPT OF DAILY BRIEFING  
(ON THE RECORD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

*Monday, Dec 4, 1978*

MR. CARTER: Good afternoon.

Secretary Vance will swear in George M. Seignious II as Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, today at 5:00 p.m. Biographies will be available in the Press Office later this afternoon. Available now in the office are copies of an ACDA press release regarding a conference for women on SALT, to be held in the Dean Acheson Auditorium on Tuesday. Director Seignious will welcome the participants to the conference, which begins at 9:00 tomorrow morning.

Q Is this all day?

A The conference does go all day, as I recall.

Q Can we get a schedule?

A Yes. The schedule is here, and I would be happy to have it for anybody who wants to look at it.

Q It's open?

A With the attendant little notes up on the blackboard saying whether it's background or whatever.

I have some new telephone numbers here in the continuing Guyana situation. Effective immediately, relatives of the survivors and victims of the Jonestown tragedy should use only the following telephone numbers when seeking information from the Department: Numbers: area code 202-632-3712. This is a rotary number, and all calls will be handled as expeditiously as possible. The Bureau of Consular Affairs is notifying the next-of-kin of the victims and survivors as soon as new information is available. So, it is not necessary that these relatives contact the Department. However, should they wish to call, the new number, to repeat it, is 632-3712.



In connection with this announcement, I'd like to ask of you not to use the special Guyana Working Group number provided to you during the past weeks. The Guyana Working Group no longer is operating from the Operations Center, and the persons in the Operations Center will not be in a position to answer questions about the situation, either in Guyana or Delaware. Those are all Op Center numbers.

Q What does "rotary number" mean?

A It just means that it will spin it right around until it runs out of ways to get in, and then they will pick up the call as soon as — you know, the next number down on a switch.

Q Can you bring us up to date on what contacts are taking place today in the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations, and what contacts are planned? For example, do you have any approximate date when the Israelis are coming into Washington?

A Let me sort of take you through what I have. I think a short-hand answer is, I'm not sure when the next round will be, but let me take you right down the line.

We are still consulting with both governments on how to proceed next in the negotiations. The consultations which we have had with Prime Minister Khalil, beginning last Friday, have given us a fuller understanding of the Egyptian position.

As the Prime Minister said after his Saturday morning meeting with the Secretary here, they have been useful and constructive. In regard to Prime Minister Khalil, the Secretary, accompanied by Ambassador Atherton and Assistant Secretary Saunders met with the Prime Minister at the Madison Hotel yesterday afternoon from 2:45 to 3:30 p.m. The Secretary also talked with the Prime Minister on the telephone.

This morning at 10:30 at the Madison, Ambassador Atherton and William Quandt of the National Security staff met with the Prime Minister. I do not know when or whether the meeting ended.

Q Who was it, Vance and Quandt?

A No. Atherton and Quandt.

Q Where?

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DPC 227

TRANSCRIPT OF DAILY BRIEFING  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1978  
(ON THE RECORD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

MR. CARTER: Good afternoon.

A press conference will be held Wednesday, December 6 at 3:30 p.m. by AID Administrator John J. Gilligan and several country delegates on the closure of the 27th Colombo Plan Meeting, concerning assistance to developing countries. The press conference will be held in Room 2118, this room. Contact Gale Wallace at 632-8332 for further information.

I have a statement on the transmittal of the 5th Semiannual Report on Implementation of the Helsinki Final Act.

On behalf of President Carter, Secretary Vance yesterday transmitted the 5th Semiannual Report on Implementation of the Helsinki Final Act to Chairman Dante Fascell of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

These reports are prepared under the provisions of public Law 94-304, which established the Joint Legislative Executive CSCE Commission in 1975.

The present report covers the period June 1 to December 1, 1978.

As in the past, the record of the last six months has been mixed with progress in some areas, coupled with disturbing setbacks in other fields.

The rate of emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union should exceed 25,000 for the year, the highest number since 1973. Restrictions affecting the practice of religion have been reduced in some countries, and another positive development was the entry into force of the Trade Agreement between the United States and Hungary.

It provides for reciprocal, most-favored nation tariff treatment, and should lead to expanded trade.

At the same time, the report makes clear that the trials of Anatoliy Shcharanskiy, Aleksandre Ginzburg, and other leading human rights activists in the Soviet

Union were "flagrant violations of the spirit of Helsinki."

The report also says that working conditions for journalists have, if anything, worsened in the last six months, and the availability of economic and commercial information in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union has generally not improved.

The United States remains committed to developing CSCE as a process which will reduce the barriers between East and West, and solve some of the human problems caused by the division of Europe.

We intend to continue to press for full implementation of the Final Act, both in public and in private diplomatic exchanges.

Copies of the report are available for distribution, I believe, in the press office.

Q Hodding, does the report make any comment on the fact that this year is going to be the highest for Jewish emigration? If not, do you have a comment on that?

A I was reading it rather fast. It does note that the rate of emigration is high.

Q I noted that, but is there a comment on that development as such, as far as US-Soviet relations are concerned. If that is in the report, then never mind.

A Let me refer you to the report first. If it does not speak directly to that, let me come back to that question.

Q Do you have any figures on hand now that you can give us?

A Yes. I can give this. In 1973, it was 33,500 emigrants; 1974, 20,000; 1975, 13,000; 1976, 14,000; 1977, 16,700; and, as the report says, at the current rate, they expect over 25,000 this year. Of course, obviously, the year is not up, and that is a projection.

Q Are these just Jewish emigrants?

A That is what this refers to, specifically.

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Q Does it tell where their destination is, or presumably is? To Israel or --?

A Most of the emigrants settle in either Israel or the United States. The figures are approximate for the numbers of those who arrive in Vienna. Now, the breakdown -- at any rate, in the Q & A that I have, it doesn't separate the numbers. It may be that in the report, which, quite frankly, this morning I have not had a chance to read yet, it will break down to something.

I would refer you, in this case, to page 23 of the report on this particular issue.

I don't have any other statements. Let me say to you that George Sherman will be briefing at one o'clock.

Q Hodding, Mena, out of Cairo, announced Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance, is going to visit --

Q Louder?

Q Question.

Q Speak up, speak up.

Q Do we have to wait until one o'clock before we get that announcement from the State Department officially?

A Yes. Let me say any announcements on anything such as that which Mena has announced usually require some kind of confirmation from places as to the transmittal and acceptance of messages.

Q Hodding, will you apologize to us tomorrow, then?

A No, I won't apologize at all. I was absolutely accurate at the time that I spoke. I was absolutely accurate as of four yesterday afternoon. I would have been accurate if somebody had asked me at six.

Q You didn't qualify it yesterday.

A I did not qualify it because it was unqualified at the source.

Q What has changed, in the meanwhile?

A I am not going to be able to go into that, but George will.

Q Are you saying you will have a response to the Begin message? Is that what you are saying?

A No.

Q What are you talking about? We couldn't hear the question.

A The question is basically on flat assertions which are overturned in less than 24 hours.

Q Which flat assertion was it?

A Mine. No, no, no, as I recall.

Q If you don't want to talk about the Middle East, can we talk about Iran? What word do you have from the Embassy there? Do you have any current reports on oil exports and production?

A No. I don't have anything beyond the press reports that I can contribute on that.

Q Hodding, back on the Middle East. Do you have any comment on the Israeli army's destruction of two houses of Palestinian suspects on the West Bank?

A No. I have seen that press report, and we are looking into the circumstances. At this point, I have nothing more to say.

Q Hodding, to follow up on that, about two weeks ago, you said you were looking into some reports that there had been a number of arrests of Palestinians who were opposing the Camp David accords. Has your investigative team come up with anything on that?

A You mean, has our embassy and consulate looked into it? The answer is yes, we have.

Q Have you got any response or comment?

A I don't have any response to offer you this morning. Do you want me to take a question on that?

Q Sure.

A Yes.

Q A question on Guyana, please, Hodding.

There is a Times report today saying that papers of Jones suggest a much closer relationship with the U.S. Embassy than has been officially acknowledged. Can you take that one, please?

A Yes. I would like to point out, first, that the story is based on memoranda written by Peoples Temple representatives in Georgetown to Mr. Jones in Jonestown. From the evidence we have available now, it appears clear that these people had considerable personal stake in pleasing Mr. Jones. That suggests to us that the memos were based upon selective, incomplete versions of normal and totally justified business conversations between Mr. McCoy and Peoples Temple representatives in Georgetown.

Do you have some specifics you want to ask me about?

Q What else have you got?

A Let me go a little further, because I don't need to be drawn out on this one. We feel fairly strongly about it.

The story raises issues which have obviously been of concern to us, to the Department. The Department has carefully investigated the personal conduct and professional performance of Mr. McCoy, and our investigation will go forward as we continue with our review of the entire Jonestown tragedy.

But our investigations to date lead us to the conviction that Mr. McCoy performed his duties as our Chief Consular Officer in Georgetown in a manner completely consonant with the highest standards of professional competence and ethical behavior.

I will have this available for you, but I will repeat it.

Our investigations to date lead us to the conviction that Mr. McCoy performed in a manner completely consonant with the highest standards of professional competence and ethical behavior.

The role of consular officials is necessarily proscribed by U.S. law, Department regulations, and the Constitutional guarantees of the rights of American citizens residing abroad.

We are convinced that Mr. McCoy did everything possible within these limitations.

Insofar as the propriety of the relationship between Mr. McCoy and the Peoples Temple is concerned, given the circumstances of a large American community isolated and apart from our Embassy in Georgetown, it was necessary for Mr. McCoy to maintain a working relationship with the Peoples Temple representatives in Georgetown.

It in fact became increasingly difficult to maintain such a relationship because of Mr. McCoy's own suspicions of the Peoples Temple, and because of their increasing hostility toward Mr. McCoy.

This was partially because Mr. McCoy had frequent contacts with Guyanese police officials concerning the Peoples Temple. The Peoples Temple leaders were apparently aware of these contacts.

Insofar as some specific allegations are concerned, for instance, did he undertake to agree to find out who was spreading rumors in the Embassy that Mr. Jones was an atheist, in fact, that is incorrect. The conversation reported in the Peoples Temple memo apparently refers to a conversation in which Mr. McCoy himself was accused of being the source of such rumors.

Insofar as the Stoen case, the custody case, was concerned, what the Embassy said in that respect, and it has been repeated by higher officials, the Embassy is involved in providing consular services to American citizens in the litigation which came before the Guyanese courts.

However, it was and is the Department's position that the Embassy cannot take a position favoring one side or another in a case in which all the disputants are American citizens.

Insofar as the allegation that in fact Mr. McCoy informed Jonestown of a list of all of the people he wished to see when he made visits there, that is untrue. It was a reasonable procedure which he followed to let the officials there know of a number of the people he wanted to see.

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At no time was a complete list given.

The names of certain people in especially problematic cases, that is, ones in which there were particular problems raised by accusations of some kind of duress, were deliberately withheld prior to Mr. McCoy's first two visits to Jonestown.

In the case of his final visit, only those names of people wishing to report a birth were furnished to Jonestown. Four other names were withheld. I think that is what I have on that.

Q Hodding, can you take a question which I don't believe has been answered, although posed here last week. When the Guyana court in effect dropped the Stoen custody case, was the American Embassy informed of the death threats made against the Guyana judge? And did the Embassy report that to the State Department?

A I think the judge said publicly at the time that the conduct of not the lawyers, but some of the participants in the trial, had led him to the decision to drop the case.

Q The judge has said since publicly that he was threatened with assassination, he and his family, by members of the Jonestown community.

A I am aware of that, too. I am saying at the time, I thought you asked me --

Q And the lawyer for Mrs. Stoen has also alleged that at the time the Embassy was aware of the threat of mass suicide, is that true or not?

A I don't know if I can answer that. No, I can't answer it. Let me take the question.

Q In any event, the Embassy did not report to the State Department that there was any death threat against the judge.

A That one I will have to take. I will take that question.

Q Hodding, can you explain why it has taken you people so long to comment on this? I understand that when the AP first came up with this story that you were informed of it and asked to comment on it yesterday, and as recently as 11:00 this morning, a senior deputy of



Yours indicated that you had no answer and, quote, were just going to have to take the heat, unquote, on this one.

A No. I wish deputies wouldn't comment -- no, that is being facetious.

The real question was whether or not at this point, what was being requested as I understood it, was providing Mr. McCoy. That decision has not been taken.

Q Well, you had an opportunity to comment on the story, the Department did, and it has taken you -- you know, after the story has been run in the newspapers, you finally get around to it.

I am just curious why you people are so slow to come up with this kind of a thing.

A I will go ON BACKGROUND. There is always a question in charges involving individuals, whether in fact you attempt to deal with it generally and not specifically, on the grounds that you may be providing a precedent in which every time either a nut, a legitimate newsman or anybody else raises accusations against an individual who is pursuing his duty as he understands it best, you will promptly make that person available to answer those charges. That is always a debate that goes on each time that specific accusations are made by Congressmen or journalists or pamphleteers, or anybody else, whether or not you are going to expose them and thereby set the precedent that any fool can get a person hauled before a public inquiry on the basis of some kind of charge. Each time you have to work your way through it.

And, still talking ON BACKGROUND, this is one that is being worked through the process of trying to make that decision.

Q Hedding, that is certainly a reasonable position, but it is not as if this thing came up out of the blue yesterday. You have known for quite a while that there is a controversial point here about the way the consular matters were handled down there.

A We felt we were answering the general questions as they came in regard to how he conducted -- or how we conducted our consular business down there in regards to Jonestown.

Clearly you then were given a new element, and there have been other new elements that have come in, and we have had to deal with them. END BACKGROUND.

Q Hodding, I am not familiar with all of the literature of this debate, but is this the first time that you have said from here that anybody in the Embassy had real concerns about the Peoples Temple?

A No. I think we have indicated, I thought, rather often that there were concerns, and because we had concerns, we followed through on the trips to Jonestown to ask the specific questions that were raised.

Q I had the impression that from these trips the Embassy had the impression that things were going along pretty well.

A I think that the Embassy had to report what it found, and the Consular Officer would report that he did not have any verification offered to him by anybody who was there, including those he had not notified that he was coming, and that insofar as the operation of the farm itself was concerned, it was what it purported to be. That is what he did find.

Q Can you give me an update on identifying the dead people, identifying them with the passport?

A Jeff, do you have a figure on that?

MR. DIETERICH: I don't have a recent figure. Dover has been putting out figures on a number of people that they have identified on a daily basis.

MR. CARTER: Did you want to try Dover?

Q What is the process you go through with the passports, specifically the passports, if that is all you have?

A Of course you have to go through other processes, as well as finding other physical identification which may be in some file somewhere, either on the coast or in other places where some identifications might be kept.

Q You recognize the state of many of the bodies, but they are more than just trying to match up people to passports.

Q Is the state of it all to the point where we are going to have to give up identifying?

A I don't know, and I think you are just going to have to ask the unit that is doing that. That is out of our hands, right now.

Q Hodding, as a matter of procedure, would Mr. McCoy be available to appear before a Congressional committee?

Q Can't hear.

A The question is: Would Mr. McCoy be made available to appear before a Congressional committee? I do not know.

Q You indicated that the investigation of Mr. McCoy's conduct is continuing.

A I indicated that our investigation of all the events surrounding the Jonestown thing continues, and Mr. McCoy himself would be quite happy to see each and every avenue explored, and in fact obviously they will be. But I think last Friday Tom spoke to the question of how far we were along on that.

Q Hodding, was there ever an answer to the question here as to why the State Department did not refer to Justice a request from Congressman Ryan to explore the grounds for extradition of Jones following an order from the Superior Court of California?

A It was our understanding from Justice -- wait, I think that was answered and posted, because when I came back I remember reading it.

Q It was posted.

A I understand from talking with Justice that in fact they said there was no legal grounds under which that could proceed, and there was hardly any point in attempting it, since there was no legal basis for it.

Q What did McCoy tell the Guyana police? You said that McCoy had problems with the Peoples Temple because he was a source --

A He had conversations.

Q What did he tell them? What was he upset about?

A Let me take the question, again, because I don't remember. I don't want to try to wing that one. I am taking your question.

Q Hodding, a couple more on Guyana, please. Can you tell us anything about the disposition of Jones' body?

A I think for the body questions now, and that sort of thing, I am going to have to refer you elsewhere as a source.

Q To where?

A I would either try Justice or I would try Dover.

Q They say to go to State.

A You mean, you are getting a circular response here.

Q Yes.

A Frankly, our responsibilities in this matter end at the water's edge, coming back rather than going out, and I don't think that I have any information on that.

Q Let me ask you one or two others here, please. Do you have anything on the report about Jones having stashed away at least \$10 million in different banks around the world?

A Let me say that obviously we have seen those reports in the paper. I do not have any independent verification of it. That is clearly a matter for the on-going investigation of the entire matter which is to begin. It is not a State Department function.

Q And this last one, if I could ask it, please, about the report that sealed arrest warrants had been issued to people by the FBI believed responsible for the killing of Ryan?

A No, I would not have any comment on that.

Q Hodding, could you amplify an answer posted last week? You said that Mr. McCoy gave lists of people intending to visit at Jonestown, the Peoples Temple. Why was that done?

A As became pretty clear quite often, the people at Jonestown had said repeatedly that they of course, had a right to turn away anybody that they wanted to turn away. It was to try to facilitate visits by people who were going there that they were informed that they were coming. Otherwise, the normal reaction in any kind of community, and frankly at my front door, is that you don't give me advance notice and you come with intent I don't know, I don't let you in.

[MORE]

Q Was he giving people lists because he feared that a visit of some group or other to Jonestown might trigger a mass suicide?

A I sincerely doubt that.

Q Could you just take that question, to see whether he feared that?

A Yes. You mean, what was in his mind.

Q That an attempt to take the Stoen child back, for example, might trigger a mass suicide.

A Again, I doubt it; but yes, I will see whether he wants to reveal what was in his mind at the time.

Q Hodding, a statement last Friday by Tom Reston said that there are few groups of Americans overseas to whom so much attention was paid by the Government over the last 18 months. Does that include looking into the role of the Peoples Temple in the domestic politics of Guyana?

A I doubt it.

Q Could you take the question, whether that was ever raised?

A The question is being raised, Jeff -- and in some of these running briefings it may have been handled -- did we in fact look into the question of the political role of the Peoples Temple in the internal affairs of Guyana. I remember a general thesis was that that frankly was a question which would be of concern to the Guyanese Government, but that we in fact do not supervise American citizens insofar as their political activity abroad is concerned.

Q One of the first stories said that the Peoples Temple members had campaigned, apparently, for --

A I did go through a routine with that, or John Bushnell went through one on that. And what I said then is generally what the answer was.

MR. DIETERICH: The response to Juan's question about the statement devoting more attention to this group than to other groups referred to it in the consular sense, in terms of the use of consular services.

MR. CARTER: But in any case, your question remains. And I think the answer is no.

Q Hodding, on another line, wouldn't the Embassy be reporting on unusual political developments within Guyana from the standpoint of --

A Yes.

Q Wouldn't this be a legitimate function to be reporting on?

A If it seems to be arising to that occasion, I would say so.

But before we build a framework for an entire story here: You are talking about allegations of political involvements which have trickled out at some length but did not have any particular coverage in the press of its own nation, in which there is an opposition press.

Q If I may pursue this, can you tell us then whether or not, can you say that there was no reporting of a non-consular but a political nature from the Embassy in Guyana relating to relations between the Peoples Temple and members of the Guyanese Government?

A I'll take the question. I have no idea.

Q Hodding, do you know whether there has been any kind of a routine, instructions that have gone out to American embassies in countries where other cults are located, in terms of stepping up the reporting on these organizations? Is any effort being made by the State Department as a result of this to --

A I would imagine that, in the absence of any protests, inquiries, or the like, the answer would be no; that is, that a general, overall blanket decision to start looking into religious --

Now let's use the word correctly. One man's cult is another man's main-stream religious belief. And therefore -- are we sending out an order to our embassies to start looking into religious organizations abroad in which Americans are participating? -- I think the answer is no.

Are we looking into allegations that are raised about places? The answer is yes; that is, we will try to do investigatory on the well-being of American citizens there.

I heard someone say "filing break." I hope you won't, for several reasons: (1) because we've been on only one subject and there may be some other things you want to be on, and (2) because some of you have to file because George is coming on here.

Q Did the State Department take any action to try to draft a psychological profile of the Peoples Temple settlement?

A After the fact?

Q No, before the fact.

A Psychological profile? Did we try to do a psychological profile? No.

Q We had a question yesterday about some charges made by Congressman Wilson of Texas against the Human Rights office regarding Nicaragua. I wonder if you have a response on it today.

A Yes, I do.

The Congressman had several things to say about the policy of what he termed the State Department or the Human Rights Bureau. The answer is: The Congressman's charges, if accurately reported, are wrong in their assumptions and irresponsible in their phraseology. In particular, we reject the characterization of the officers in our Bureau of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, in whom the Department has the fullest confidence.

Beyond that, our policy with respect to Nicaragua is the responsibility of the highest levels of the Department and of the U.S. Government. It is a policy with the overriding goal of a peaceful, democratic resolution of Nicaragua's severe internal crisis. As part of a three-nation mediation team operating pursuant to an OAS initiative, we have been working persistently over the last two months to achieve that goal. Our efforts in this regard are not helped, nor is public understanding of the situation improved, by statements and charges such as those made by Congressman Wilson.

That's the end of the statement.

Q Do you have anything on Iran?

A I thought I just went through that one.



Q Did you? I'm sorry.

A Are there any questions arising from stories in this morning's newspaper on Asian affairs?

Q Oh, yeh. I know; I know. (Laughter)

Q How about the French-Chinese nuclear deal?

A Oh. I shouldn't have raised that one. (Laughter)

We have nothing specific on this subject. This is a matter primarily between the French and the PRC Government, and as such I suggest your questions be directed to them.

Insofar as the general question of U.S. approval is concerned, U.S. approval of transfer to a third country of a reactor manufactured abroad with U.S.-licensed technology would require a determination that the transfer not be inimical to United States interests. Discussions on this subject are continuing between the United States and France. No final decision has been made.

ON BACKGROUND -- Question: Now, Hodding, can you say that if we have stories running in the newspaper saying that an agreement has been signed?

ON BACKGROUND -- Answer: The agreement is a general framework under which specific particular sales agreements must still be negotiated and signed; and therefore the question, as I have said, on this particular subject has not been subject to a final decision by us. END BACKGROUND

Q Were we consulted before the sale went through?

A The sale has not gone through. Do you mean before the agreement was signed?

Q Yes.

A I would say ON BACKGROUND we have had discussions with the French Government about this. END BACKGROUND

Q What specifically is involved?

A Again, I have to say that in this case the nuclear reactor -- it's been suggested that one of the things that's up for grabs here is nuclear-powered reactors which are manufactured under license from Westinghouse. In that case, the business that I just outlined as to the requirement for our approval comes into play.

Q Hodding, don't the provisions of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation law regarding the requirement that recipients of U.S. nuclear technology sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and accept international nuclear inspection come into play on a question of a sale like that?

A There are aspects that come into play. I do not feel, frankly, technologically or in this case legally qualified enough to answer that question directly.

Q Can you take the question, then, as to whether or not the Department believes that to become a recipient of U.S. nuclear technology, whether directly or indirectly, a nation -- whether it be China or anybody else -- has to sign the NPT and accept the international inspections?

A I'll take the question. I'm not sure whether the application is going to be such as you suggest. We'll just have to see.

Q Well, I just --

A Yes, I know. I mean, I take it with that caveat -- that since I don't know enough about that particular subject to know whether the question is phrased the way -- but I'll try.

Q Which specific agency would have to give the approval for this transfer?

A We have to transmit it, but who all comes into play on it in the Federal bureaucracy I do not know. I'll take that.

Q Do you know if China accepts the International Atomic Energy Agency standards for safety?

A This is clearly a question for which I should have brought an expert down here.

It's a different question. He's asking me about a different agency and a different set of requirements.

I don't know the answer. I'm taking it.

Q Hodding, now that you're taking that question, could you take also the question of whether to approve the export license the President in this case would have to waive the requirements of the law?

A I think what I might try to do on this subject, because it will arise in other areas as well, is to see whether I can bring somebody down here tomorrow who can discuss the whole question of what is involved in this kind of transfer. I think it would be better, rather than doing it piece-by-piece.

Q Hodding, in connection with the refugees from Viet-Nam. Does the United States have anything to say about the Malaysian treatment of the refugees? And do we have any more plans to help out in humanitarian ways?

A I think that we have indicated in our consultations with Congress, and in the announcements made thereafter, what our own intentions are in terms of dealing with the refugees. We have, of course, consulted with the Government of Malaysia. Beyond that, I'm not going to go into the substance of it. I don't have any comment specifically.

Q Well, could I switch you to the war, then? Do you have anything to say about the heating up of hostilities between Viet-Nam and Cambodia?

A In reference to that, I have to repeat something which is either a truism or a cliché, which is that our information from the area is sketchy but there is indication that the level of hostilities has increased; and while we have seen those indications, I am not in a position to confirm the reports, particularly in the frame you just gave me, which is I believe of a massive heating up.

Q What about the questions put to you yesterday about the formation of this new Cambodian front sponsored by Hanoi?

A We still have learned little beyond those radio reports and what we have seen reported there.

Q There was a story about linkage between Viet-Nam and China, as far as progress of U.S.-Vietnamese normalization. Is that linked?

A You want to talk about Vietnamese normalization?

Q Yes.

A All right. Find me my Vietnamese normalization expert.

Q While you are looking, do you have anything new on the study of Congressman Findley's reported message from Mr. Ararat on --

A Nothing new on that.

Q Can you return back to the Helsinki Accords?

A Yes.

Q In the Helsinki Agreement, as I remember, there is a specific provision suggesting that all the parties of this Accord should sign and ratify the international agreements on human rights -- such as the United Nations covenants on human rights and the United Nations conventions against genocide and those forms of racial discrimination.

So the question is: I don't know how many of these international agreements the United States has already signed and ratified. If you can give --

A I will be glad to give you that, because I don't have it on the top of my head. The answer is: we have not signed several.

Q Could you take this question for me?

A I will give you the specific answer as to what we haven't signed -- which we have undertaken to do and which the President has also undertaken to do beyond the agreement. And I will be glad to post an answer on that -- that is, as to which ones and what plans we have.

Now when I say signed, I mean also had implemented, which is I think, the question.

Q On Namibia, does the Department have any clearer understanding of what South Africa wants to do with the results of the elections?

A I do not have at this time, any kind of guidance on whether or not there has been a report back since the Foreign Minister went home.

I do not have any further indication to answer on your question on that.

Come on up, Jack and have fun.

MR. CANNON: I am Jack Cannon, the Public Affairs Officer for the East Asian Bureau.

I'm sorry, what was the question that was taken?

Q On whether progress on relations with Viet-Nam is linked to U.S.-Chinese --

MR. CANNON: Well, in relation to our Viet-Nam policy, the policy of normalization of relations with Viet-Nam is unchanged. We have had discussions on this matter with the SRV since May of 1977, and we expect these conversations to continue.

We are, however, seriously concerned over the growing conflict between Viet-Nam and Cambodia and the swelling numbers of refugees coming out of Indochina.

We are, as well, studying aspects of the Soviet-Vietnamese Peace and Friendship Treaty.

President Carter has set no timetable or deadline on normalization of U.S.-Vietnamese relations; and while it remains a goal of our policy, we are taking into account the important matters I have just mentioned as we discuss how and when to proceed with the establishment of diplomatic relations.

Q Jack, are you suggesting that the fighting between Viet-Nam and Cambodia could delay normalization of relations?

MR. CANNON: I want to restate that we have set no preconditions, Lars, as to normalization. But the pace of normalization -- we are studying these other important matters, one of which, was as I just stated, the Vietnamese-Cambodian growing conflict.

Q But one could look at that in two ways: You might be happier if they overthrow the Pol Pot regime.

MR. CANNON: Well, I am not going to characterize or suggest how you want to look at it or speculate on what will develop with the Vietnamese-Cambodian conflict. But it is a serious matter. We are seriously concerned over it, and we are taking it into account in our discussions and thoughts over the timing and pace of normalization of relations.

Q But on that matter, why is it serious? In other words, does the U.S. feel that one party is particularly responsible for that conflict?

MR. CANNON: Bernie, I am just not going to get into a speculation as to the who-shot-John-in-the-war or the growing conflict. I am just saying that we consider the whole problem seriously enough to take it into account when we consider our discussions with the Vietnamese over normalization.

Q Does that mean that if this conflict gets to a certain point, it will become an impediment to normalization of relations?

MR. CANNON: No, that is speculative. I am not going to go down that road. I am just stating to you what our policy is now.

Q Is it an impediment now?

MR. CANNON: No, we are not talking about impediments. I am saying we are taking these factors into account. Period.

Q Is Chinese support for Cambodia a factor that we take into account in the question of normalization with China?

MR. CANNON: No, I am not going to get into a discussion about our concerns with either the Chinese or the Soviets over this matter. Specifically on Vietnam, all I am saying is that it is entirely an important issue and we are taking it into consideration.

Q What effect does a statement such as the one you have just made have?

MR. CANNON: That is a conclusion for you to draw, I think.

Q Is the United States making any overtures, say to Hanoi, through its contacts to see what can be done to de-escalate the conflict?

MR. CANNON: Well, look. I think it should be clear that what we have said is that there are no new preconditions; that when we entered in May of 1977 into discussions with the Vietnamese over normalization, we set no timetable, we set no deadline. We have had three formal negotiations and several informal discussions with the Vietnamese. The policy has not changed. We are seeking as a goal of our policy normalization of relations with the Vietnamese. But these other factors have come along, and we are giving them serious consideration when we consider the pace and timing of normalization. But I can't go any further than that.

Q Mr. Cannon, in your assessment, is there any serious threat to the present Cambodian regime by the creation of this front in Viet-Nam?

MR. CANNON: I am not going to comment on that. I think Assistant Secretary Holbrooke has said that we certainly hope a few years from now that there will be a Cambodian government. That is a factor in our considerations.

That in no way changes our characterization, or the President's characterization, of Cambodia as the chief serious violator of human rights in the world today. But that in no way --

Q Jack, some of us who have been watching Viet-Nam now for about the last fifteen or twenty years have a memory of statements of no policy changes. Can't you at least concede that your policy toward recognition has changed? As I recall, at the start of this Administration the United States was ready for diplomatic relations with Viet-Nam so long as there were no preconditions.

Mr. Holbrooke is quoted and the Secretary has said that Viet-Nam has apparently dropped its precondition on economic aid.

If they had done that back in 1977, there would have been immediate diplomatic relations. So hasn't the policy now changed?

MR. CANNON: Well, Bernie, I am not going to get into a semantical discussion of when the policy can be considered to have changed.



All I am telling you are what the facts are, and that is that we are taking several serious factors into consideration. We have set up no preconditions whatsoever; however, there is no deadline; there is no timetable. We expect to be discussing normalization with the Vietnamese again -- both sides have said they expect to do so -- and as far as we are concerned, the policy remains unchanged.

Q Jack, did Hanoi ever react to that denunciation by Hank Cushing a couple of weeks ago about having to buy your way out of Viet-Nam?

MR. CANNON: Not that I am aware. No, I don't believe so.

Q Jack, you didn't answer my question about whether there is any relationship between the pace of normalization with Viet-Nam and relations between the United States and China.

MR. CANNON: I am not going to get into any discussion of linkage of our policy between China, Viet-Nam, Cambodia, the Soviet Union.

Q Is there linkage? The way you just answered, you leave it open whether there is any --

MR. CANNON: I have said I am just not going to get into a discussion of linkage concerning various policies. Our policy with respect to Viet-Nam stands on its own merits; and that is, we have stated it clearly: we are prepared to establish diplomatic relations with Viet-Nam without preconditions. That should be ipso facto apparent that it stands on its own merits.

Q Jack, you said here that we were concerned over serious conflicts between Cambodia and Viet-Nam. Will you mind illustrating a little bit more how serious it is -- the U.S. assessment of the seriousness of the conflict?

MR. CANNON: Well, Hodding has already said that our information from the area, Juan, is very sketchy. We simply don't know. But the reports suggest a serious and growing conflict. We do not know the dimensions of it, but we are seriously concerned enough about it to take it into account with respect to our whole Viet-Nam policy.

Q Thank you.

MR. CANNON: Thank you.

(The briefing was concluded at 12:54 p.m.)



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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: CASC, OREP (RYAN, LEO), CT

SUBJECT PEOPLES TEMPLE SURVIVORS SAY NO UNDERGROUND BUNKERS IN JONESTOWN.

REF GEORGETOWN 3332

SUBSEQUENT TO DISPATCH OF REPTFL EMB CONOPS SPOKE WITH SURVIVORS OF PEOPLES TEMPLE CALAMITY WHO STATED THAT THERE WERE NO UNDERGROUND BUNKERS THAT THEY WERE AWARE OF IN JONESTOWN. THE PT GROUP HAD CONSTRUCTED A BANANA CELLAR WHICH WAS PARTLY UNDERGROUND.

ACCORDING TO SURVIVORS. THE STRUCTURE WAS POORLY MADE AND PART OF IT COLLAPSED SHORTLY AFTER IT WAS COMPLETED. THE BANANA CELLAR WAS CLEARLY VISIBLE ACCORDING TO THE SURVIVORS. THEY SAID THEY COULD NOT THINK OF ANY AREAS WHICH MIGHT HIDE SECRET UNDERGROUND BUNKERS.

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ORIGIN ARA-15

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I.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, OREP (RYAN, LEO), GY

SUBJECT: EQUIPMENT FOR GUYANA NATIONAL POLICE (GDP)

REF: (A) GEORGETOWN 3725, (B) GEORGETOWN 3790,

(C) GEORGETOWN 3816

1. REFTELS, INTER ALIA, CONTAIN ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT NEEDED BY GDP FOR JONESTOWN OPERATION.

2. EQUIPMENT REQUESTED BY REF A (MINUS 54 SLEEPING BAGS) IS PRESENTLY BEING SHIPPED FROM HOWARD AFB TO GEORGETOWN.

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EQUIPMENT IN REF C IS BEING IDENTIFIED AT PRESENT.

3. IN VIEW OF LOGISTICS PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH ASSEMBLY AND TRANSPORTATION OF EQUIPMENT TO GEORGETOWN, AND THE RECOGNIZED FLUID SITUATION THERE, REQUEST CLARIFICATION OF CURRENT EQUIPMENT NEEDS IN REF B TO SUPPORT GDP. IN PARTICULAR, REQUEST ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

(A) IS THIS REQUEST IN ALL RESPECTS ADDITIONAL TO OTHER REQUESTS? (B) WHAT ARE HIGHEST PRIORITY REQUIREMENTS? FYI, GIVEN LOCATION OF THIS EQUIPMENT IN VARIOUS POINTS US, AND TIME REQUIRED TO CENTRALIZE IT, ITEMS MAY NOT REACH GEORGETOWN UNTIL OPERATIONS ARE VIRTUALLY COMPLETED. END

FYI. CHRISTOPHER

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: CASC, OREP (RYAN, LEO) GY

SUBJECT REQUEST FOR AMERICAN PASSPORTS SEIZED AT JONESTOWN

1. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE GUYANA POLICE HAVE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY A FOOTLOCKER CONTAINING PASSPORTS ISSUED TO RESIDENTS AT JONESTOWN. THEY ARE BEING REVIEWED IN GUYANESE POLICE HEADQUARTERS.

2. AT 0900 A.M. NOVEMBER 22 AMBASSADOR CALLED MINISTER GREEN, CHAIRMAN OF GOG CABINET TASK FORCE DEALING WITH THE JONESTOWN INCIDENT, AND ASKED THAT GOG TURN THESE PASSPORTS OVER TO THE EMBASSY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ASSIST IN PROBLEM OF IDENTIFYING REMAINS AND RATIONALIZING THE ACTUAL NUMBERS OF PEOPLE WHO MIGHT HAVE BEEN AT JONESTOWN. GREEN PROMISED TO GIVE THE NECESSARY INSTRUCTIONS TO THE POLICE ON THIS POINT.

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ACTION ARA-15

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TAGS: CASC, OREP (RYAN LEO) CT

SUBJECT MEDICAL FINDINGS OF INVESTIGATION AT JONESTOWN  
THERE FOLLOWS REPORT BY TWO MEDICAL OFFICERS WHO VISITED  
JONESTOWN NOVEMBER 21, 1978:

QUOTE SUBJECT MEDICAL FINDINGS OF INVESTIGATION OF BODIES  
AND DRUGS AT JONESTOWN, GUYANA, ON NOVEMBER 21, 1978.  
OUR FINDINGS AFTER APPROXIMATELY 5 HOURS OF INVESTIGATIONS  
AT JONESTOWN TODAY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. BODIES ARE EXTREMELY DECOMPOSED AND IMPOSSIBLE TO IDENTIFY BY VISUAL RECOGNITION.
2. LACERATIONS OF LIPS AND TONGUE AND BLOOD FLOWING FROM THE MOUTH ARE EVIDENT.
3. NO EVIDENCE OF STRUGGLES OR VIOLENCE OBSERVED AT SCENE EXCEPT AS INDICATED IN PARA 4.
4. MR. JONES APPARENTLY DIED FROM A SELF-INFLICTED GUNSHOT

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WOUND. A YOUNG WOMAN IDENTIFIED AS HIS WIFE HAD PART  
OF HER HEAD BLOWN OFF BY A GUNSHOT WOUND.

5. A NUMBER OF BOTTLES OF POTASSIUM CYANIDE AND CHLORAL HYDRATE AND KOOL AID PACKETS WERE NOTED NEAR A LARGE MIXING CONTAINER. ALTHOUGH CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF THE CONTAINER CONTENTS OR OF STOMACH CONTENTS WAS NOT PERFORMED. THE FINDINGS OF THE APPARENTLY CONVULSING INDIVIDUALS IS CONSISTENT WITH POISONING BY THESE AGENTS.

6. MANY USED SYRINGES WERE OBSERVED AT THE SCENE.

7. AN EXTREMELY LARGE SUPPLY OF OTHER DRUGS WERE FOUND AT THE SCENE OF MIXING AND IN 3 OTHER BUILDINGS IN THE PREMISES. THE DRUGS INCLUDED LARGE SUPPLIES OF VALIUM, DEMEROL, THORAZINE, OTHER PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS, ETC. ETC. THE SUPPLY OF DRUGS AVAILABLE APPEARED TO BE FAR IN EXCESS OF NORMAL NEEDS OF A POPULATION THE SIZE OF JONESTOWN.

8. ESTIMATION OF NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS IS APPROXIMATELY 600. THIS NUMBER IS ARRIVED AT BY COUNTING 40 BUILDINGS WITH APPROXIMATELY 15 BEDS EACH.

9. TWO HOSPITAL UNITS CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 12 BEDS

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EACH WERE NOTED. APPROXIMATELY 6 DEAD INDIVIDUALS  
WERE OBSERVED IN EACH OF THESE UNITS. MEDICAL  
EQUIPMENT INCLUDED A PORTABLE X-RAY, EKG MACHINE,  
DEFIBRILLATOR, AUTOCLAVE, AND MINIMAL EQUIPMENT  
FOR URINALYSIS, HEMATOLOGY, AND CHEMISTRY.  
CONCLUSION: INDIVIDUALS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MR. AN  
MRS. JONES DIED BY CYANIDE AND CHLORAL HYDRATE

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PAGE 83 GEORGE 83968 221819Z  
POISONING BY SUICIDE. IDENTIFICATION (FURTHER)  
CAN ONLY BE MADE BY DENTAL RECORDS.

RECOMMENDATIONS WE RECOMMEND THAT THESE INDIVIDUALS BE  
BURIED AT JONESTOWN AND NOT BE REMOVED. NO HEALTH  
PROBLEM WAS APPARENT AND THEY SHOULD POSSESS NO POTENTIAL  
HEALTH PROBLEM TO THE GUYANESE.

/S/ BRUCE J. POITRAST AND /S/ LYNN CROOK, M.D., PH.D.  
LTC USAF MCPS CLINICAL PATHOLOGIST, ASST.  
DIRECTOR HEMATOLOGY,  
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF S. CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF LABORATORY MEDICINE

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TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 295945

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC. CREP (RYAN, LEO), GY

SUBJECT: SMALL AIRCRAFT REQUIREMENT FOR GUYANA

1. WE NEED SOONEST INDICATION WHETHER TWO TWIN OTTERS  
OR SIMILAR AIRCRAFT SUITABLE FOR SHORT DIRT RUNWAYS COULD  
BE MADE AVAILABLE BY HOST GOVERNMENT OR LEASED FROM  
PRIVATE COMPANY IN YOUR COUNTRY. PLANES WOULD BE FOR USE  
IN GOG OPERATIONS IN INTERIOR TO TEMPORARILY REPLACE OTTER  
DAMAGED IN ATTACK ON CONGRESSMAN RYAN AND SIMILAR PLANE  
BEING USED IN JONESTOWN OPERATIONS.

2. FUNDING PROBLEM NOT RESOLVED IF LEASING REQUIRED. CHRISTOPHER

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/WR  
RECEIVED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
LOCATION(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
PA OF INFORMATION \_\_\_\_\_

79 GEORGETOWN 3887

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 03987 300413Z

ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ISO-00 CA-01 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAF-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00

OC-06 F-01 SS-15 PA-01 INR-10 DRC-01 /056 W

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0160

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 3887

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR MRN 3887 VICE 0160

E.O. 11652; N/A

TAGS: CASC

SUBJECT: RETURN OF REMAINS OF PEOPLE'S TEMPLE MEMBERS

USAF C-141 TAIL NO 70026 DEPARTED BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT

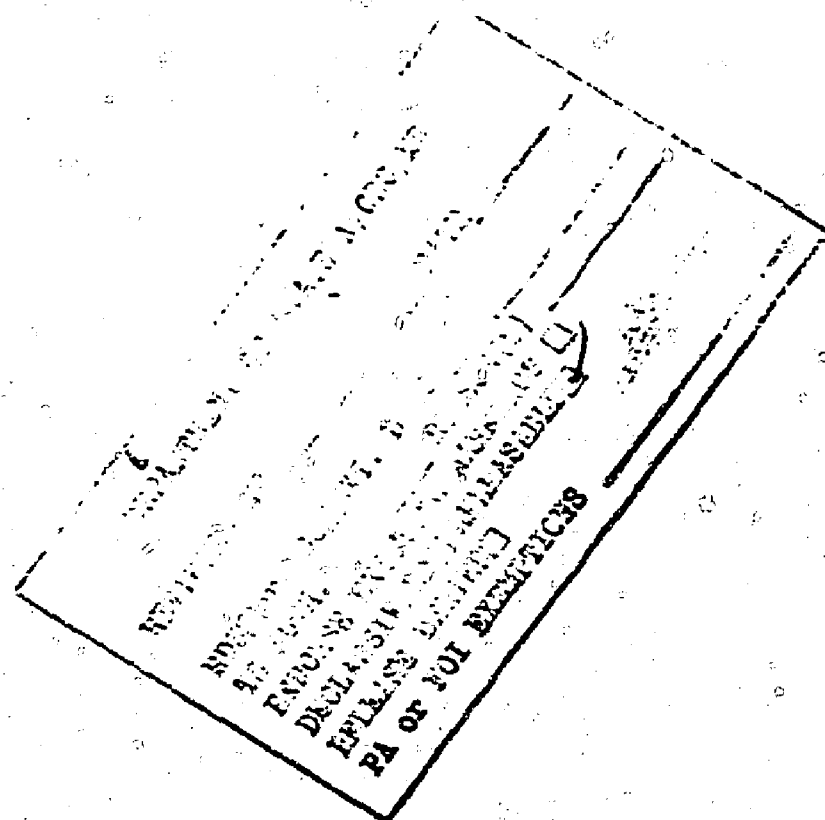
AT 0440Z, DESTINATION DOVER AFB, DEL. BEARING FORTY

RPT FORTY BODIES OF PEOPLE'S TEMPLE VICTIMS SHUTTLED

TODAY FROM JONESTOWN.

BURKE

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SMITH VELMA T  
79 STATE 296506

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PAGE 01 STATE 296506

ORIGIN ARA-15

INFO OCT-21 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCI-00 INRE-00 SY-05 SYF-00

SS-15 PM-39 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-05 H-01

CA-01 /050 R

DRAFTED BY MYLREP:LT.COL.JREYNA

APPROVED BY ARA:SRGIBSON

S/S-OJTHYDEN

032939 230730Z /10

O R 230656Z NOV 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

INFO SECDEF WASHDC 2086

JCS WASHDC 1690

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 296506

E.O. 11652: V.A.

TAGS: CASC, CREP (RYAN, LEO) GT

SUBJECT: EQUIPMENT FOR GUYANA NATIONAL POLICE

REF: A) GEORGETOWN 3992 ✓ B) STATE 294924 ✓

REQUEST AMEMBASSY VALIDATE AND PRIORITIZE EQUIPMENT

REQUESTED PER REF A. IN VIEW OF DELAYS IN LOCATING

AND CENTRALIZING EQUIPMENT, ITEMS ARE NOT EXPECTED TO

REACH GEORGETOWN UNTIL OPERATIONS ARE COMPLETED. VANCE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS [ ]

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EXEMPTED FROM DECLASS. [ ]

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS [ ]



956

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**ACTION ARA-15**

0 241557Z NOV 79

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4759

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS CARACAS 11112

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN 11112 VICE 1112)

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGE: CASC DEEP (RYAN, LEO) GY VE

SUBJECT: SMALL AIRCRAFT REQUIREMENT FOR GUYANA

295945 ✓

1. VENEZUELAN AIR FORCE DOES NOT REPEAT NOT HAVE  
TWIN OTTERS IN ITS INVENTORY. FURTHER. IT DOES NOT HAVE SIMILAR  
AIRCRAFT AVAILABLE FOR LOAN OR LEASE.

2. AERO POSTAL. A GOV-OWNED AIRLINE. DOES HAVE SKY VANS IN ITS INVENTORY. THIS IS AN AIRCRAFT SIMILAR TO THE TWIN OTTER. IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO WORK OUT AN ARRANGEMENT FOR THE USE OF ONE AND POSSIBLY TWO SKY VANS IN GUYANA. HOWEVER, VENEZUELAN WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THIS AT GREATER LENGTH DIRECTLY WITH GUYANESE OFFICIALS. THE VENEZUELAN OFFICIAL WHO SHOULD BE CONTACTED IS AIR FORCE GENERAL OSCAR ALI ARAQUE ANGULO WHO HEADS AERO POSTAL (TEL NO. 71-98-61).

3. EMBASSY HAS NOTED A CERTAIN RELUCTANCE ON THE PART OF VENEZUELAN  
BUT BELIEVES THAT, AFTER DISCUSSION AND FULL EXPLANATION BY  
JAPANESE OFFICIALS, SOMETHING MIGHT BE WORKED OUT. IN EMBASSY'S VIEW  
THIS WOULD PROBABLY BE A LEASE RATHER THAN A LOAN. AFRO POSTAL,  
ALTHOUGH GOVERNMENT-OWNED, IS AN OPERATING AIRLINE THAT IS SUPPOSED

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PAGE 02 CARACA 11112 290924Z

TO MAKE A PROFIT.

4. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO CONTACT OTHER CHARTER OPERATORS

AND HAS PASSED FOREGOING TO GUYANESE AMBASSADOR COLLINS

**ENDERS**

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R CHARTER OPERATOR  
ASSADOR COLLINS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDO/OPS  
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957

ASTK MICHAEL S  
B STATE 297692

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AGT 01 STATE 297692  
ORIGIN PA-02  
INFO OCT-81 ARA-15 ISO-00 /S19 R  
DRAFTED BY PA:TRESTON:MAD  
APPROVED BY PA:TRESTON

250200 250230Z /81

242122Z NOV 78  
FM SEASTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
UNCLAS STATE 297692  
FOR AMBASSADOR BURKE

INFO. 11652: NA  
TAGS. SOPN, GY (RESTON, JAMES JR.)  
SUBJECT: VISIT OF JAMES RESTON, JR.

DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY TOM RESTON WISHES TO  
INFORM AMBASSADOR BURKE THAT HIS BROTHER, JAMES RESTON,  
R., WILL BE ARRIVING GEORGETOWN ON SATURDAY, 11/25,  
IN ORDER TO BEGIN RESEARCH FOR A BOOK ON PEOPLES TEMPLE  
COMMUNITY (PTC) AND THE INCIDENTS OF PAST YEAR.

DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY RESTON WOULD PERSONALLY  
APPRECIATE ANY ASSISTANCE WHICH AMBASSADOR, TOM DWYER,  
AND CONSULAR STAFF OF AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN COULD RENDER  
TO JAMES RESTON, JR. RESTON HAS BEEN COMMISSIONED BY  
TIMES BOOKS TO WRITE A BOOK ON PTC, ITS ORIGINS, AND ITS  
GUYANESE DENOUEMENT. RESTON IS THE AUTHOR OF FIVE PRE-  
VIOUS BOOKS, AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY RESTON  
BELIEVES AMBASSADOR AND STAFF WILL FIND JAMES RESTON, JR.  
TO BE UNBIASED, THOUGHTFUL, SENSITIVE AND OBJECTIVE.

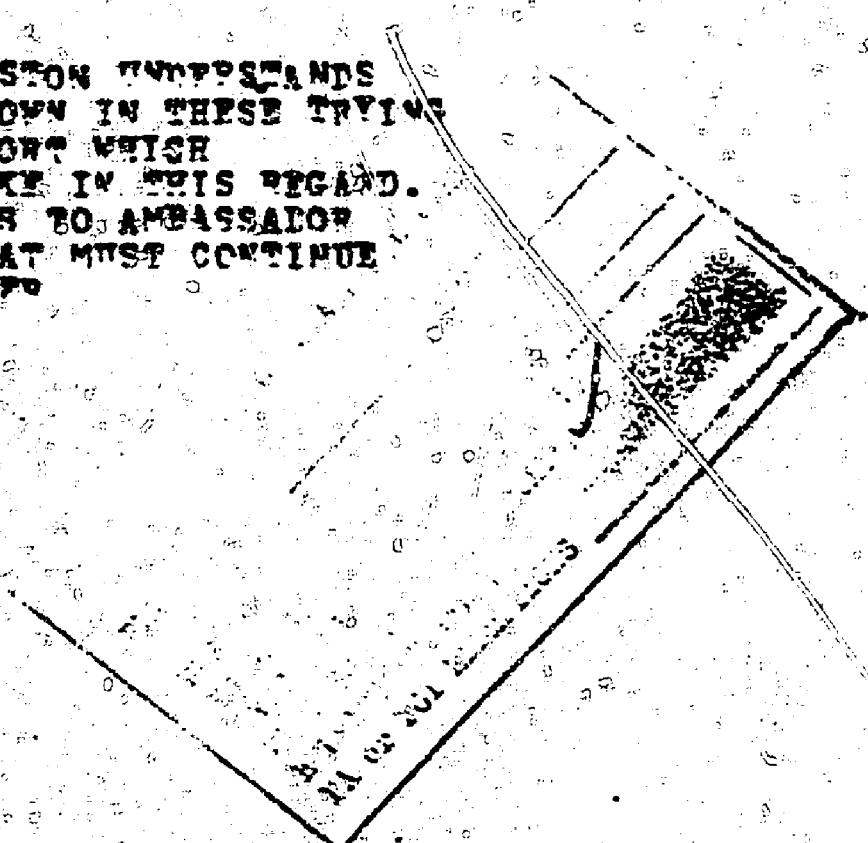
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PAGE 02 STATE 297692

WHILE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY RESTON UNDERSTANDS  
THE TRAINED RESOURCES OF AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IN THESE TRYING  
DAYS, HE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY EXTRA EFFORT WHICH  
AMBASSADOR BURKE AND HIS STAFF COULD MAKE IN THIS REGARD.  
RESTON EXTENDS HIS WARM PERSONAL REGARDS TO AMBASSADOR  
BURKE DURING WHAT MUST HAVE BEEN AND WHAT MUST CONTINUE  
TO BE A GHASTLY EXPERIENCE. CHRISTOPHER

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959

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**ACTION PA-02**

298206 2703017 /12

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 3447

TAGS: CASC, OREP (RYAN)

**SUBJECT VISIT OF JAMES RESTON, JR.**

REF: STATE 247692

YOUR BROTHER HAS ARRIVED AND IS IN TOUCH WITH US. WE  
WILL BE PLEASED PROVIDE HIM WITH AS MUCH ASSISTANCE AS  
WE APPROPRIATELY CAN.

**BURKE**

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/EE  
REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
FOR AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_  
EXCISES \_\_\_\_\_  
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DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION \_\_\_\_\_

TRUE EMMA L  
CARACAS 11175

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PAGE 01 CARACA 11175 272045Z

CTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-06 SS-13 SSO-00 CA-01 E-02

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272013Z NOV 78

AM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4784

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS CARACAS 11175

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, ORP RYAN, LEO), CY, VE

SUBJECT: SMALL AIRCRAFT REQUIREMENTS FOR GUYANA

REF: 1) STATE 295945; 2) CARACAS 11112

1. EMBASSY WAS ABLE TO CONTACT PRESIDENT OF LINEA AEROPOSTAL VENEZUELANA (LAV) AIR FORCE BRIGADIER GENERAL OSCAR ALI ARAQUE. CONTRARY TO EMBASSY'S EARLIER IMPRESSION, LAV DOES, IN FACT, HAVE SOME TWIN OTTERS.

2. GENERAL ARAQUE STATED THAT AFTER THE LOSS OF ONE UNIT IN A CRASH, LAV NOW HAS AVAILABLE ONLY FIVE TWIN OTTERS WHICH ARE IN DAILY SERVICE FLYING TO SMALL AIRPORTS SOUTH OF THE ORINOCO. IT WOULD THEREFORE BE VERY DIFFICULT TO MAKE AVAILABLE TWO UNITS. HOWEVER, THE GENERAL PROMISED TO BRING MATTER UP WITH MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS AFTERNOON OF NOV. 27, AND, WHILE NOT MAKING ANY COMMITMENTS, SEES THE POSSIBILITY OF MAKING AVAILABLE ONE UNIT FOR A LIMITED PERIOD OF TIME. IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER THIS WOULD BE LOAN OR LEASE -

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PAGE 02 CARACA 11175 272046Z

BUT PROBABLY THE LATTER.

3. THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS OPERATES TWO SHORTS SKYVANS, MAINLY IN LIAISON AND IN NAVAL MAINTENANCE WORK. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF AIR TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC, GENERAL SUAREZ, IS ON LEAVE FOR ANOTHER TWO WEEKS; HIS DEPUTY IS FLYING IN THE INTERIOR OF THE COUNTRY. IN ANY CASE, THE FINAL DECISION ON THE SKYVANS WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE BY THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT COMMUNICATIONS.

4. EMBASSY WILL APPROACH THE MINISTER REGARDING

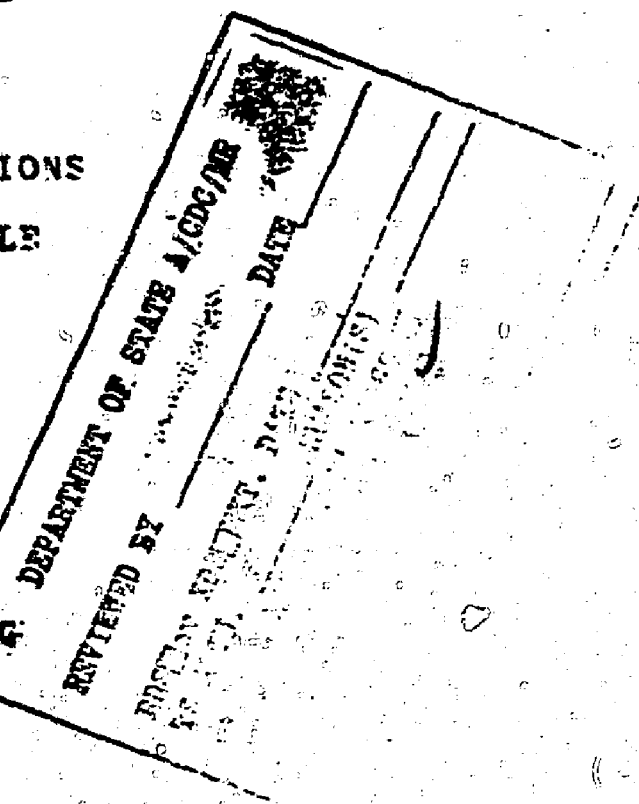
THE LAV TWIN OTTER AND THE MINISTRY'S SKYVANS.

5. FOREGOING PASSED TO GUYANESE AMBASSADOR.

6. ARE AIRCRAFT STILL DESIRED?

END

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PASER MICHAEL S  
78 GEORGETOWN 3158

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GEORGE 03958 271944Z

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ACTION AR4-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DOD-00 IWP-10 NSAF-00  
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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9228

DOD WASHDC

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 3158

USICA FOR FCM/RC AND AR

SECSTATE FOR AR4/CAR AND GUYANA SPECIAL WORKING GROUP

E.O. 11652 N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION

1. PRESS BRIEFING HELD NOVEMBER 24 AT USICA PRESS CENTER  
ATTENDED BY APPROXIMATELY 50 REPORTERS INCLUDING LOCAL MEDIA.  
QUESTIONS FOCUSED ON TWO GENERAL AREAS: REASONS FOR DELAY  
IN FINDING ERROR IN ORIGINAL BODY COUNT, AND IDENTITY AND  
CITIZENSHIP OF SOME CHILDREN FOUND UNDER BODIES OF ADULTS.  
ON LATTER POINT, QUESTION WAS RAISED WHETHER MILITARY WAS  
CERTAIN, PRIOR TO SHIPPING BODIES TO U.S., ALL WERE  
U.S. CITIZENS.

2. FIVE REPORTERS OBTAINED GOG MINISTRY OF INFORMATION (MOI)  
AUTHORIZATION AND TRANSPORTATION TO JONESTOWN SITE  
NOVEMBER 23. AFTER MILITARY-SUPERVISED ROUTE THEIR  
REQUEST FOR RETURN TRANSPORTATION BY DEAF CRAFT DENIED  
DUE LACK OF AVAILABILITY. TWO REPORTER MARY HOSSEMAN  
CALLED PRESS CENTER NOVEMBER 24 FOR ASSISTANCE IN GETTING  
THEM OUT. BUT WAS TOLD THEY MUST USE SAME MEANS FOR ENTRY  
AS ENTRY UNLESS SPACE BECOMES AVAILABLE LATER ON TSA  
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GEORGE 03958 271944Z

AIRCHART. MOI ARRANGED TRANSPORTATION OUT OF AREA.

3. FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS OFFICES AND LOCAL MEDIA  
COVERAGE CONCENTRATED ON REVISED TOTAL OF BODIES, WITH  
CONTINUING ATTENTION TO SURVIVORS. MORRIS CHARGES FILLED  
NOVEMBER 23 AGAINST ONE NEW PEOPLE'S TEMPLE MEMBER ALSO  
NOTED.

4. HEAVY LOCAL COVERAGE NOVEMBER 24 OF JUDITH PRIME  
MINISTER PLOUNT REID'S SPEECH NOVEMBER 23 BEFORE PARLIA-  
MENT GIVING GOG REPORT ON PORT KAITUMA AND JONESTOWN  
INCIDENTS. FULL TEXTS PRINTED IN DAILY GUYANA CHRONICLE  
AND PNC WEEKLY ORGAN. THE NEW NATION. SPEECH CARRIED  
LIVE BY GOVERNMENT RADIO.

5. WEEKLY "NEW NATION" OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF RULING  
PEOPLE'S NATIONAL CONGRESS PARTY. JARHITT MEMORIAL AND  
EDITORIAL CAPTION NOVEMBER 26. CAPTION SHOWS WACHETE  
LABELLED "INTERNATIONAL CONSPIRACY" CUTTING DOWN YOUNG  
TREE SYMBOLIZING PEOPLES TEMPLE. BLOCK QUOTES FROM

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

IDS or IDS EXT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☒

RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

PASEY MICHAEL S  
78 GEORGETOWN 3458

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EDITORIAL FOLLOW.

6. FOR ONE THING MANY IN THE UNITED STATES WERE DETERMINED THAT THE JONESTOWN COMMUNE SHOULD NOT SUCCEED. THEY MADE EVERY EFFORT, THEREFORE, TO UNDERMINE AND DISCREDIT. WHY?

7. THAT SO MANY PEOPLE SHOULD WANT TO LEAVE THE 'COMFORT' OF THE UNITED STATES TO COME AND SETTLE IN GUYANA'S HINTERLAND REFLECTED ADVERSELY ON THE 'AMERICAN' WAY OF LIFE. THAT THEY COULD HAVE DONE SO SUCCESSFULLY WOULD HAVE CAUSED GREAT ANGER AND DISSATISFACTION IN MANY QUARTERS. THEREFORE WHATEVER DISSATISFACTION OF

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PAGE 23 GEORGE 23458 271 442

DISAGREEMENT EXISTED IN THE COMMUNE WAS ENCOURAGED AND, IT APPEARS, EVEN EXAGGERATED.

8. A HOSTILE PRESS CAMPAIGN WAS STARTED AND RELENTLESSLY PURSUED AND THE DIFFERENCES AMONG THE TEMPLE MEMBERS WERE EXPLOITED TO THE FULL. THESE SEEM TO HAVE AFFECTED UNDULY THE MIND OF JONESTOWN'S FOUNDER, PASTOR JIM V. JONES. HE THEREFORE APPEARS TO HAVE TAKEN THE DECISION, AFTER CONGRESSMAN LEO RYAN INSISTED ON VISITING THE COMMUNE, THAT HE AND A NUMBER OF THOSE ACCOMPANYING HIM SHOULD NOT LEAVE JONESTOWN ALIVE.

WHAT HAPPENDED AFTER THAT DECISION WAS TAKEN IS NOW HISTORY. WE DEEPLY REGRET THE UNTIMELY DEATH OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN, THE JOURNALISTS AND PHOTOGRAPHER WHO ACCOMPANIED HIM AND THE DEATH OF THE SETTLERS AT JONESTOWN.

12. REGRETS, ALAS, CAN CHANGE NOTHING. BUT WE ALL CAN, IF WE WILL, LEARN FROM EVENTS SUCH AS THOSE WHICH OCCURRED AT JONESTOWN JUST ONE WEEKEND AGO. ONE OF THE THINGS WE SHOULD ALWAYS SEEK CONSISTENTLY TO AVOID IN THIS LIFE IS REPETITION OF THE SAME MISTAKE.

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SMITH VELMA T  
78 STATE 300157

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ORIGIN ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 ISO-00 EF-00 ABF-01 CIAE-00 INR-10  
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APPROVED BY ARA:JABUSEMELL

S/S-O:JTHYDEN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

INFO CINCSOUTCOM QUARRY HTS IMMEDIATE

CINCMAC SCOTT AFB IMMEDIATE

USPDCOM/RCJ2 MACDILL AFB FLA IMMEDIATE

USCINCARRED FT MCPHERSON GA IMMEDIATE

CDR 18TH AIRBORNE CORPS FT BRAGG NC IMMEDIATE

SECDEF IASHDC IMMEDIATE IMMEDIATE 2132

JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1731

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 300157

Z.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, GY

SUBJECT: EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT - AIRCRAFT ENGINE

1. TASK FORCE IN WASHINGTON IS STILL LOOKING INTO MATTER OF A REPLACEMENT ENGINE FOR THE DEHAVILLAND OTTER AIRCRAFT DAMAGED IN THE KAITUMA AIRPORT INCIDENT.

2. MEANWHILE, PRATT AND WHITNEY OF CANADA ADVISES US THAT A NEW ENGINE IS IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE AT A COST OF APPROXIMATELY DOLS 100,000. COMPANY DOUBTS, HOWEVER, THAT NEW ENGINE NECESSARY AND RECOMMENDS GUYANA AIRLINES

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PAGE 02 STATE 300157

(OR USC IF INTERESTED) FOLLOW THE MORE USUAL PATTERN OF

(A) RENTING REPLACEMENT ENGINE AT COST OF DOLS 5,000;

(B) RETURNING DAMAGED MOTOR TO COMPANY FOR OVERHAUL AT COST RANGING FROM FEW THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR MINOR REPAIRS TO ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM OF DOLS 40,000 FOR COMPLETE OVERHAUL;

(C) EXCHANGING REPAIRED AND RENTED MOTORS.

3. THE ESTIMATED ONE-WAY AIR FREIGHT CHARGE FOR SHIPPING THE MOTOR EITHER FROM CANADA TO GUYANA OR THE REVERSE IS DOLS 500, OR A TOTAL OF DOLS 2,000 FOR TWO EXCHANGE SHIPMENTS.

4. GIVEN THE LOGIC OF THE COMPANY'S SUGGESTED COURSE OF ACTION, WE ARE EXPLORING WHETHER USC CAN AND SHOULD RESPOND TO GOG REQUEST FOR NEW ENGINE AND, IF SO, HOW WE CAN ACHIEVE THAT GOAL. THE PROBLEM IS BEING STUDIED, AND WE WILL ADVISE SOONEST HOW WE CAN PERHAPS BE HELPFUL.

5. OUR DELIBERATIONS HAVE INEVITABLY INCLUDED CONSIDERATION OF THE BASIC QUESTION OF WHETHER THE TERMS OF THE CHARTER CONTRACT PLACE ON USC ANY LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY TO REPAIR DAMAGED AIRCRAFT OR ENGINE. IT IS ASSUMED.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	DATE
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SMITH VELMA T  
79 STATE 380157

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BUT WE ARE BY NO MEANS CERTAIN, THAT THE GUYANESE AIRLINE  
CARRIED INSURANCE WHICH WOULD LEGITIMATELY COVER REPLACE-  
MENT/REPAIR/RENTAL COSTS IN SITUATIONS OF THIS KIND.  
INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE EMBASSY ON THIS POINT WILL  
BE USEFUL AND IS REQUESTED URGENTLY. CHRISTOPHER  
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SMITH VELMA T  
76 STATE 301207

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PAGE 01 STATE 3012 7

ORIGIN ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 E-01 PA-01 SS-13 SSO-00 NSCE-00

SCS-06 CA-01 /040 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:JABUSHNELL

APPROVED BY ARA:JABUSHNELL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO MEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 301207

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM BUSHNELL

E.O. 111652 N/A

TAGS: CASC, GY

SUBJECT: REPORT OF DCM'S DWYER

1. AS YOU MAY IMAGINE WE ARE ALREADY GETTING LARGE  
NUMBER OF QUESTIONS FROM CONGRESS, PRESS, OFFICIAL  
INVESTIGATORS AND PUBLIC ON EVENTS DURING LAST TWO WEEKS.  
AS I UNDERSTAND DCM DWYER IS NOW ABLE TO BE BACK TO  
WORK PART-TIME. I WOULD URGE THAT HIS HIGHEST PRIORITY  
BE MADE THE PREPARATION OF A DETAILED REPEAT DETAILED  
REPORT OF ALL OF THE EVENTS CONCERNING THE CODEL AND  
THE PEOPLES TEMPLE IN WHICH HE WAS INVOLVED. DETAILS,  
NAMES AND PLACES WILL BE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT FOR  
INVESTIGATIVE AGENCIES. AS VARIOUS PARTS OF THIS  
REPORT ARE COMPLETED. THEY SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY  
CABLE. CLASSIFICATION SHOULD BE INDICATED BY PARAGRAPH  
OR SECTION. THE REPORT SHOULD BEGIN FROM THE DATE THE  
EMBASSY FIRST HEARD OF CODEL.

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PAGE 02 STATE 301207

2. GIVEN THIS REQUIREMENT IT MAY BE PARTICULARLY IMPOR-  
TANT FOR YOU TO RECEIVE A SENIOR OFFICER TO HELP WITH  
THE UNUSUAL WORKLOAD DURING THE NEXT COUPLE OF WEEKS  
FOLLOWING DIKEOS' DEPARTURE. VANCE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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RDSC or ADSC EXT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_

ENDORSE EXISTING REASONS ☐ REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_

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RELEASE UNLESS \_\_\_\_\_

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

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EVERETT AND WATT AND SINGLE FOR YELLMAN AT PEGASUS NIGHTS 5 AND 6 DECEMBER IF AVAILABLE. IF NOT, ACCOMMODATIONS TOWER OR IN ANY REASONABLE HOSTELRY WILL DO. TRANSPORT GEORGETOWN AND PLANT VISITS WILL BE ARRANGED BY DELEGATION WITH GEORGETOWN SEAFOODS. RECOGNIZING STRAINS AND HANDS ON EMBASSY THAT WILL STILL EXIST, DELEGATION DOES NOT REQUEST MEETING WITH EMBASSY STAFF UNLESS EMBASSY SO SIRS.

FOR BELEM: REQUEST DOUBLE WITH TWIN BEDS FOR EVERETT AND WATT AND SINGLE FOR YELLMAN AT GRAO PARA IF AVAILABLE NIGHTS OF 8 AND 9 DECEMBER. ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER

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STATE 301364

DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO ARRANGE VISITS TO ONE OR TWO JOE SERIMP/FISH PROCESSING PLANTS THAT ARE OPERATING AT DAY. REQUEST POST MAKE LOCAL CONTACTS TO REQUEST PERMISSION TO VISIT THESE PLANTS. ACCOMPANIMENT OF BELEM OFF WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY, BUT DELEGATION WOULD APPRECIATE USE OF VEHICLE FOR SATURDAY ACTIVITIES IF AVAILABLE. YELLMAN HAS BRAZILIAN DRIVING EXPERIENCE AND IS FAMILIAR WITH AREA. NO OFFICIAL ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR SUNDAY.

FOR BRASILIA: REQUEST DOUBLE WITH TWIN BEDS FOR EVERETT AND WATT AT NACIONAL NIGHTS OF DECEMBER 10 AND 11. DELEGATION WOULD APPRECIATE MEETING WITH EMBASSY MORNING MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, PRIOR TO TUESDAY MORNING DEPARTURE FOR MEETING AT SAO PAULO WITH BRAZILIAN FISHERY INDUSTRIALISTS.

FOR SAO PAULO: PER YELLMAN/CASWELL TELECON OF NOVEMBER 28, GROUP WISHES TO ARRANGE MEETINGS ON DECEMBER 12 BETWEEN APPROXIMATELY 1030 AND 1500 WITH BRAZILIAN INDUSTRIALISTS EDDIE CURY AND RUBENS CASPARIAN. CURY'S FIRM CONFRIO, RUA VISCONDE OURO PRETO 72-72, CONSOLACAO, SAO PAULO, TEL 257-9036. CASPARIAN'S FIRM IS CEPESC, TEL 9196 (NUMBER APPEARS TO BE OLD). NO ADDITIONAL INFO AVAILABLE ON CASPARIAN FIRM. SHOULD SCHEDULING DIFFICULTIES ARISE IN ARRANGING THESE MEETINGS, DELEGATION CAN MEET LATER IN SAO PAULO AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 12. REQUEST CONGEN INFORM DEPARTMENT BY IMMEDIATE CABLE IF THESE TWO INDIVIDUALS ARE AVAILABLE.

FOR RIO DE JANEIRO: REQUEST DOUBLE WITH TWIN BEDS FOR EVERETT AND WATT AT DEERET NIGHTS OF DECEMBER 12, 13 AND 14. ON MORNING OF DECEMBER 13, DELEGATION WOULD LIKE, IF POSSIBLE, TO VISIT SARDINE PACKING PLANT AT NITEROI OWNED QUAKER OATS. PLANT WAS MANAGED BY AMERICAN OSCAR SAENZ LATE AS 1976. WHO MAY STILL BE THERE. SHOULD THIS

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STATE 301364

WANT VISIT BE POSSIBLE, CONGEN TRANSPORT TO AND FROM WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF AVAILABLE. REQUEST CONGEN CONTACT

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2

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R. SAEZ OR HIS SUCCESSOR TO TRY TO ARRANGE THIS VISIT.

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**-130912 291258Z /46**

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/ITR

2

SMITH VELMA T  
78 GEORGETOWN 3993

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PAGE 01

GEORGE 03993 291438Z

ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-15 ISO-00 CA-01 L-03 H-02 CS-15 HA-05  
SSO-00 NSCE-00 PPYE-00 /048 W

-----002688 291441Z /41

O 291440Z NOV 78

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8255

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 3993

E.O. 11652: 4A7

TAGS: CDES, GY (PEOPLE'S TEMPLE)

SUBJ: REQUEST OF PERSONAL DATA FOR DECEASED AMCITS

REF: GEORGETOWN 3948 ✓

EMBASSY HAS JUST BEEN INFORMED BY NBC THAT THE MAN WE HAVE  
BEEN REFERRING TO AS "DON HARRIS" HAD THE LEGAL NAME ROY  
DARWIN HUMPHREYS.

EMBASSY IS ATTEMPTING TO CONTACT NBC TO GET SIO DATA.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
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TS AUTH. _____	REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
DECLASSIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> RELASABLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
RELEASE DENIED <input type="checkbox"/>	
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____	

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PASEK MICHAEL S  
78 GEORGETOWN 4001

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 04001 300401Z

ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-00 W-01 CA-01 CIAT-00 INR-10

NSAT-00 FBIZ-00 JUSE-00 /034 W

714 59 010140Z /21

R 292005Z NOV 79

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0204

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FOR ARA DEP. ASST. SEC. BUSHNELL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS CASC. OREP(RYAN) GY

SUBJECT: LETTERS OF REFERENCE ON BEHALF OF REVEREND JIM JONES  
AND PEOPLE TEMPLE.

DURING A MEETING MORNING 2 TH WITH FORMER RASHLYIGH  
JACKSON I REFERRED TO THE LETTERS OF REFERENCE FROM  
PROMINENT AMERICANS WHICH MINISTER NASCIMENTO, IN HIS NEW YORK  
PRESS STATEMENT, CLAIMED HAD PROVIDED AT LEAST A PARTIAL  
BASIS FOR GOG'S ORIGINAL DECISION TO PERMIT JONES AND THE  
PEOPLES TEMPLE TO LOCATE IN GUYANA. I ASKED THE FOREIGN  
MINISTER IF HE MIGHT MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE EMBASSY COPIES  
OF THESE LETTERS OF REFERENCE. JACKSON REPLIED THAT THE  
LETTERS WERE NOT IN THE FILES OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE; HOWEVER,  
HE WOULD REFER REQUEST TO THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND  
PROMISED THAT THE GOG WOULD MAKE COPIES AVAILABLE, ASSUMING  
THAT THEY COULD BE READILY LOCATED.

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SMITH VELMA T  
79 GEORGETOWN 4307

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 04007 300423Z

ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EX-00 ABF-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00  
DODI-00 L-03 SS-15 E-02 /055 W

017435 010350Z /23

R 292020Z NOV 78

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0263

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 4007

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, GI, OREP (RYAN, LFC)

SUBJECT: REQUESTS FOR EQUIPMENT

REF: A. GEORGETOWN 3785/B. GEORGETOWN 3982/C. GEORGETOWN 3790

D. GEORGETOWN 3816/E. GEORGETOWN 8119 F. STATE 296506

G. STATE 300157

1. AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT NO FURTHER SHIPMENTS OF EQUIPMENT BE MADE TO GUYANA EXCEPT AS NOTED BELOW. ANY ITEMS WHICH HAVE BEEN COLLECTED AND PREPARED FOR SHIPMENT SHOULD BE RETURNED TO STOCK.
2. THE EMBASSY IS AWARE OF THE FUNDING PROBLEM RELATED TO PROCUREMENT OF THE HELICOPTER PARTS REQUESTED IN PARAGRAPH 7. REF E, BUT BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE PARTS TO GDF OPERATIONS WE BELIEVE THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD SEEK MEANS TO SATISFY THIS REQUIREMENT.
3. EMBASSY WISHES TO REITERATE ITS SUPPORT OF GUYANA AIRWAYS CORPORATION (GAC) REQUEST FOR A LOAN OR LEASE REPLACEMENT FOR THE DISABLED TWIN OTTER. WE ARE DEVELOPING ECONOMIC JUSTIFICATION WHICH WILL BE SENT SEPTTEL.
4. EMBASSY IS WORKING WITH GAC ON QUESTIONS OF INSURANCE AND ENGINE REPAIR OF DISABLED OTTER WITH VIEW TO ARRANGING A

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PAGE 02 GEORGE 04007 300423Z

SOLUTION ALONG LINES DESCRIBED IN REF G.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
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TS AUTH. _____	REASON(S) _____
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FM VELMA T  
GEORGETOWN 4014

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GEORGE 04014 301436Z

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 L-01 SCS-01 CA-01 SP-02 H-01  
NSCE-00 INR-05 DODE-00 CIAE-00 OMB-01 INRE-00  
SSO-00 /037 W

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O 301406Z NOV 78

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0209

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 4014

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CGEN, OREP, (RYAN, LEO), GY

SUBJ: STATUS OF LEGAL ISSUES

REF: GEORGETOWN 3992.

1. AS REPORTED IN REF. ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE WITH  
GOG FOR U.S. TECHNICAL PERSONNEL TO PARTICIPATE IN  
ONGOING

INVESTIGATION. GOG HAS NOT RAISED ISSUE OF CUSTODY OR  
ULTIMATE DISPOSITION OF EVIDENTIARY MATERIALS. EMBASSY  
BELIEVES THAT DISCUSSIONS ON THIS SUBJECT SHOULD BE DEFERRED. IF  
POSSIBLE, UNTIL TECHNICAL TEAM HAS HAD OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW  
MATERIAL AND DETERMINE U.S. NEEDS AND OBJECTIVES.

2. EMBASSY CONVEYED THIRD-PARTY NOTE OF FORMIN YESTERDAY  
INFORMING GOG OF U.S. RESPONSIBILITY TO TAKE CUSTODY OF  
PROPERTY OF DECEASED U.S. CITIZENS. PARTIAL INVENTORY OF  
P.T. PROPERTY, WHICH CONSISTS ALMOST ENTIRELY OF ITEMS NOT  
IDENTIFIED AS BELONGING TO PARTICULAR INDIVIDUALS (I.E.  
BUILDINGS, EQUIPMENT, TOOLS, DRUGS, ETC.) HAS BEEN PREPARED  
AND WILL BE FORWARDED TO GOG. EMBASSY OFFICIALS AND L

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PAGE 02

GEORGE 04014 301436Z

REPRESENTATIVE WILL VISIT JONESTOWN TODAY TO SURVEY PROPERTY  
AND, WITH CONCURRENCE OF GOG, TO AFFIX CONSUL SEALS AS  
REQUIRED BY 7 FAM 445. PRECEDING ACTIONS ARE PROVISIONAL IN  
NATURE. DETERMINATION AS TO WHAT PROPERTY CONSULAR OFFICER  
CAN TAKE CUSTODY OF, AND CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH PROPERTY CAN  
BE REPATRIATED REQUIRES EXAMINATION OF LOCAL LAW. GOG HAS  
APPOINTED CDF. EMERSON SIMON AS "ADMINISTRATOR" OF THE SETTLE-  
MENT, A MOVE WHICH INDICATES THAT GOG PLANS TO TAKE AN  
ACTIVE

ROLE IN DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT  
PT WAS INCORPORATED IN JUNE, 1978 UNDER THE LAWS OF GUYANA.  
THE FIVE SHAREHOLDERS AND DIRECTORS (THREE OF WHOM SURVIVE)  
APPARENTLY TOOK OUT GUYANESE CITIZENSHIP. CORPORATE STATUS  
MAY PRECLUDE EMBASSY FROM CLAIMING CUSTODY OF ORGANIZATIONAL  
PROPERTY. L REPRESENTATIVE IS REVIEWING ARTICLES OF INCORPORA-  
TION AND BY-LAWS AND WILL CONSULT WITH LOCAL COUNSEL.

3. MR. LLOYD LUCKHOO HAS BEEN INFORMED BY AMBASSADOR THAT HE  
WILL NOT BE RETAINED BY U.S. G. AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED THAT, WHILE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY *[Signature]* DATE 2-27-81

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SMITH VELMA T  
78 GEORGETOWN 4914

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/ LIMDIS

IT IS PROBABLY THAT NO ACTUAL CONFLICT EXISTED, IT IS NECESSARY, IN A CASE AS SENSITIVE AS THIS, TO AVOID ANY APPEARANCE OF IMPROPRIETY. EMBASSY IS PRESENTLY SEEKING TO RETAIN LOCAL COUNSEL WITH EXPERIENCE IN LAW OF PERSONAL PROPERTY, DECEDENT'S ESTATES AND VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS. COUNSEL WILL BE EXPECTED TO ASSIST REPRESENTATIVE IN PREPARING POSITION ON ISSUES OF CUSTODY AND ULTIMATE DISPOSITION OF PT PROPERTY. COMMUNICATIONS WITH GOG ON THESE QUESTIONS WILL BE THROUGH EMBASSY RATHER THAN LOCAL COUNSEL. EMBASSY HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH A GUYANESE JUDGE IN ORDER TO SEEK RECOMMENDATIONS. EMBASSY HOPES THAT TENTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE CONCLUDED ON THURSDAY, SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT.

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SMITE VELMA T  
78 GEORGETOWN 4016

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 04016 301622Z

ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 ICAP-00 CIAF-00 INR-10  
NSAF-00 INRF-00 SCS-06 CA-01 PPT-01 SY-05 SYE-00  
FBIE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 L-03 E-01 /059 W  
-----030922 301632Z /50

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0270

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 4016

FOR ARA/CAR:RAMCCOY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, OREP (RYAN), GY

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE NATURALIZATION OF CERTAIN PEOPLES TEMPLE  
PERSONNEL

1. IN ITS ISSUE OF NOVEMBER 29, GEORGETOWN'S EVENING DAILY.  
THE CITIZEN (WHICH IS GOVERNMENT-OWNED) CARRIES A FRONT  
PAGE ARTICLE REPORTING LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE JONESTOWN  
TRAGEDY. IN THE ARTICLE THERE IS REFERENCE TO THE FACT  
THAT FIVE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE WERE  
GRANTED GUYANESE CITIZENSHIP EARLIER THIS YEAR.  
INDIVIDUALS ARE IDENTIFIED AS: PAUL ADAMS, DEBORAH  
TOUCETTE, GEORGE PHILIP BLAKEY, JANICE WILSEY AND  
THOMAS JOHNSON. OF THESE BLAKEY IS KNOWN TO BE A BRITIS  
SUBJECT, BUT THE OTHERS ARE/WERE AMERICAN CITIZENS.  
TWO OF THE FOUR, ADAMS AND TOUCETTE, ARE STILL AT THE  
PEOPLES TEMPLE OFFICE IN GEORGETOWN; THE OTHER TWO MAY  
BE AMONG THE VICTIMS OF JONESTOWN.

2. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT EARLIER THIS YEAR  
THE EMBASSY REPORTED THAT PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT  
TO SEEK NATURALIZATION ON BEHALF OF THESE

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PAGE 02 GEORGE 04016 301622Z

INDIVIDUALS HAD APPEARED IN THE LOCAL PRESS.  
SUBSEQUENTLY, THE CONSUL HAD WARNED PEOPLES TEMPLE  
REPRESENTATIVES THAT SUCH A MOVE COULD RESULT IN  
THE LOSS OF AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP. IF CITIZEN  
ARTICLE IS ACCURATE; IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THIS  
WARNING WAS NOT HEEDED. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO  
CONFIRM THE REPORT WITH GOG OFFICIALS.

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SMITH VELMA T  
78 GEORGETOWN 4032

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 04032 302329Z

ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-00 CA-01 F-01 SS-15 SSO-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAS-00 FBIE-00 JUST-00 L-03

INRE-00 NSCE-00 PA-01 ICAE-00 DODE-00 /053 W

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0000

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 4032

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, DREP (RYAN), GY

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT TO GUYANA OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE.

REF: ASELEY HEWITT/AMBASSADOR BURKE TELCON 11/30

1. PROPOSAL THAT AMERICAN CLERGYMEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE SOUTHERN  
CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE TRAVEL TO GUYANA ON A FACT-  
FINDING VISIT WILL OBVIOUSLY CAUSE SOME CONCERN TO THE GOG.  
AS YOU KNOW THE GOG IS STILL INTENSELY EMBARRASSED BY THE ASSASSI-  
NATION OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN AND THE MASS MURDERS/SUICIDES AT  
JONESTOWN. THERE HAS BEEN A SLIGHT  
AIR OF RELIEF DISCERNIBLE IN GOVERNMENT CIRCLES OVER THE LAST  
COUPLE OF DAYS AS THE VOLUME OF WORLDWIDE PUBLICITY HAS  
FINALLY GIVEN EVIDENCE OF SUBSIDING, BUT THERE IS STILL CONCERN  
THAT GUYANA'S IMAGE WORLD-WIDE HAS BEEN PERMANENTLY DAMAGED.  
THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA IS NOT ANXIOUS TO HAVE THE STORY BACK  
ON THE FRONT PAGES ANYTIME SOON.

FOR THIS REASON THE GOG WILL PROBABLY BE VERY RELUCTANT  
TO ACCEPT A GROUP OF AMERICAN CLERGYMEN LOOKING INTO THE  
JONESTOWN MATTER THIS EARLY AFTER THE INCIDENT.

2. IN PREPARING FOR ANY VISIT AMERICAN CHURCHMEN SHOULD FIRST OF

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PAGE 02 GEORGE 04032 302329Z

ALL SECURE THE CONCURRENCE OF THE GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE  
GUYANESE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. ONCE IN GUYANA THEY WILL  
PROBABLY WISE TO TALK TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE  
GUYANA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES WHICH IS PRESENTLY HEADED BY  
ANGLICAN BISHOP RANDOLPH GEORGE OF STABROEK. AS THE DEPARTMENT  
KNOWS FROM OUR REPORTING EARLIER THIS YEAR, THE GUYANA COUNCIL  
OF CHURCHES HAS BEEN VERY CRITICAL OF SUCH GOVERNMENT ACTIONS  
AS THE REFERENDUM OF LAST JULY AND AS A CONSEQUENCE THE RE-  
LATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE COUNCIL HAS BECOME  
QUITE STRAINED IN RECENT MONTHS. NEVERTHELESS, THE GUYANA  
COUNCIL OF CHURCHES DOES REPRESENT ALMOST ALL OF THE  
CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS IN GUYANA INCLUDING ANGLICANS,  
CATHOLICS, METHODISTS, PRESBYTERIANS, LUTHERANS, ETC.  
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PA OF FOI EXEMPTIONS _____	

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SMITH VELMA T  
79 GEORGETOWN 4033

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 04033 302058Z

ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-15 ISC-00 CA-01 SSO-00 L-03 F-02 EA-05  
SS-15 PPT-01 NSCE-00 /049 W

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0200

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 4033

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES, GY (HUMPHREY, ROY DARWIN), (BROWN, ROBERT O.)

SUBJECT: BIO DATA ON DECEASED

REF: A) GEORGETOWN 3993

B) GEORGETOWN 3945

EMBASSY HAS JUST RECEIVED (FROM NBC, NEW YORK) BIO DATA ON  
"DON HARRIS" AND ALSO ON "BOB BROWN". STRIKE THOSE NAMES  
FROM REF. B BUT PLEASE CONTINUE YOUR EFFORTS ON THE OTHERS.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
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PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____	

SMITH VELMA T  
78 GEORGETOWN 4041

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 04041 01 OF 06 302331Z

ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-06 CA-01 L-03 E-01 PA-01 SS-15  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 JUSE-00 FBIE-00 USSS-00 SY-05 /24

035642 011215Z /12

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6297

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 6 GEORGETOWN 4041

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, JREP (RYAN, LEO), GY

SUBJECT: DCM DWYER'S REPORT ON CODEL RYAN'S VISIT TO JONESTOWN  
AND SUBSEQUENT MURDER

REF: A. STATE 301207 B. GEORGETOWN 4013

THERE FOLLOWS A REPORT OF AMERICAN EMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
DCM RICHARD A. DWYER, CONTROL OFFICER FOR CODEL RYAN, OF THE  
VISIT OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN TO THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE AGRICULTURAL  
COMMUNITY AT JONESTOWN, IN NORTHWEST GUYANA, AND THE SUBSEQUENT  
MURDER OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN AND FOUR OTHER AMERICANS AT THE  
AIRSTRIPE IN PORT KAITUMA. THE ACCOUNT BEGINS WITH THE GROUP'S  
DEPARTURE FROM TIMEHRI AIRPORT IN GEORGETOWN ON FRIDAY,  
NOVEMBER 17, AND CONCLUDES WITH THE RETURN OF THE BODIES OF  
THE SLAIN AMERICANS TOWARD DUSK OF SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19. A  
SUBSEQUENT CABLE WILL DEAL WITH THE CODEL'S ACTIVITIES IN  
GEORGETOWN BEFORE THE DEPARTURE FOR JONESTOWN.  
THE LOCAL POLICE HAVE REQUESTED A STATEMENT FROM DWYER.  
PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER THE DEPARTMENT CONCURS IN MAKING A COPY  
OF THIS REPORT OR AN ABBREVIATED VERSION THEREOF AVAILABLE TO THE  
GUYANESE POLICE.

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PAGE 02 GEORGE 04041 01 OF 06 302331Z

BEGIN TEXT:

1. CONGRESSMAN RYAN'S PARTY DEPARTED FROM TIMEHRI AIRPORT  
FRIDAY, NOV 17, AT APPROXIMATELY 1400 HOURS. THE GROUP HAD NO  
ABSOLUTE ASSURANCES FROM THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE THAT IT WOULD BE  
RECEIVED AT THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY IN  
JONESTOWN BEFORE ITS DEPARTURE.

2. THE GROUP CONSISTED OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN; HIS AIDE, MS.  
JACKIE SPEIERS; AND MYSELF, COUNSELOR OF EMBASSY RICHARD DWYER.  
THE ESCORT OFFICER TO CONGRESSMAN RYAN; FOUR CONCERNED RELATIVES,  
MRS. OLIVER, MS. CAROL BOYD, MR. JIM COBB AND MR. ANTHONY  
KATSARIS; TWO LAWYERS FOR PEOPLE'S TEMPLE, MR. MARK LANE  
AND MR. CHARLES GARRY; AND ELEVEN NEWSMEN, INCLUDING A FOUR-  
MAN NBC NEWS TEAM HEADED BY MR. BOB FLICK AND INCLUDING MESSRS.  
BOB BROWN, DON HARRIS AND STEVE SUNG; MR. LINDSAY OF THE  
NATIONAL ENQUIRER, MR. CHARLES KRAUSE OF THE WASHINGTON POST,  
MR. GREY ROBINSON AND MR. TIM REITERMAN OF THE SAN FRANCISCO  
EXAMINER, AND MR. RON JAVERS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE.  
WE WERE ALSO ACCOMPANIED BY MINISTRY OF INFORMATION OFFICER  
NEVILLE ANNIBOURNE.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/EC

REVIEWED BY JOHN SIMMS DATE 9-27-81

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79 GEORGETOWN 4041

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3. SHORTLY BEFORE THE PLANE'S APPROACH TO PORT KAITUMA, THE PILOT, CAPTAIN SPENCE, INFORMED ME HE HAD HAD A RADIO CALL FROM THE TOWER IN GEORGETOWN CONVEYING A MESSAGE FROM THE PT AT JONESTOWN THAT THE PORT KAITUMA AIRSTRIP WAS NOT SERVICABLE AND WAS UNSAFE. THE GROUP DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF GOING INTO MATTHEWS RIDGE; HOWEVER, CAPTAIN SPENCE SUGGESTED MAKING A PASS AT THE RUNWAY AT PORT KAITUMA TO DETERMINE ITS CONDITION. THE STRIP APPEARED IN GOOD CONDITION AND WE WENT INTO PORT KAITUMA WHERE THE PLANE LANDED AT ABOUT 1530. CAPT SPENCE INFORMED ME LATER THAT A FELLOW PILOT FROM THE

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GDF HAD GONE INTO PORT KAITUMA EARLIER IN THE DAY AND HAD HAD NO REPORTS ON RUNWAY DIFFICULTIES.

4. THE GROUP WAS MET BY ABOUT SIX PT REPRESENTATIVES INCLUDING TIM CARTER UPON OUR DESCENT FROM THE PLANE. THE PT REPRESENTATIVES WERE UNCOMMUNICATIVE TO MOST OF THE GROUP AND DREW ASIDE TO TALK WITH THEIR TWO LAWYERS. THE LAWYERS ANNOUNCED THAT THE PT HAD DECIDED THAT THE TWO LAWYERS SHOULD GO TO JONESTOWN AND CONFER WITH JIM JONES ON WHETHER THE REMAINDER OF THE GROUP WOULD BE ALLOWED TO ENTER JONESTOWN. IT WAS POINTED OUT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PT AND THEIR LAWYERS THAT THE PLANE HAD TO LEAVE PORT KAITUMA BEFORE DARKNESS AT ABOUT 6:00 P.M. THE TWO COUNSELS THEN DEPARTED WITH MEMBERS OF THE PT IN THE LARGE TRUCK WHICH WAS USED BY THE PT TO TRAVERSE THE BAD ROAD INTO THE TEMPLE. THIS AND THE PT TRACTOR WERE PURPORTED TO BE THE ONLY VEHICLES IN THE AREA ABLE TO MAKE THE TRIP. A FEW MINUTES LATER, HOWEVER, THE TRUCK REAPPEARED AND THE LAWYERS ANNOUNCED THAT IT HAD BEEN DECIDED THAT THE CONGRESSMAN, HIS AIDE, MS. SPIERS, AND MYSELF WOULD BE PERMITTED TO ACCOMPANY THE GROUP. AFTER SEVERAL DELAYS, INCLUDING ONE DELAY NECESSARY TO REMOVE FROM THE JONESTOWN ROAD A TWO WHEEL CART LOADED WITH HEAVY LOGS, THE GROUP ENTERED JONESTOWN AT ABOUT 1630 OR 1700 HOURS. AFTER TALKS WITH JIM JONES AND OTHER LEADERS OF THE PT, DURING WHICH CONGRESSMEN RYAN EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT FREE ENTRY TO AND EGRESS FROM JONESTOWN WERE ESSENTIAL TO PROVE THAT JONESTOWN IS AN OPEN AND FREE COMMUNITY, JIM JONES RELUCTANTLY AGREED, UPON THE URGING OF COUNSEL, TO PERMIT THE NEWSMEN AND THE CONCERNED RELATIVES TO ENTER JONESTOWN. MR. JONES DECIDED, HOWEVER, THAT MR. LINDSAY OF THE NATIONAL ENQUIRER WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED ENTRY INTO JONESTOWN AND MR. LINDSAY THEREFORE RETURNED WITH THE PLANE TO GEORGETOWN.

5. THE TRUCK WAS SENT TO FETCH THE NEWSMEN AND THE CONCERNED RELATIVES. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE CONGRESSMAN'S PARTY WOULD PASS THE NIGHT AT JONESTOWN WHILE THE REMAINDER OF THE GROUP WOULD HAVE DINNER AT JONESTOWN BUT SPEND THE NIGHT AT PORT

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KAITUMA AND RETURN THE FOLLOWING MORNING. WHILE AWAITING THE PRESS AND CONCERNED RELATIVES TO ARRIVE, CONGRESSMAN RYAN AND

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HIS AIDE. MS. SPEIERS, BEGAN INTERVIEWING THE NUMEROUS RESIDENTS OF JONESTOWN ABOUT WHOM THEY HAD HAD INQUIRIES OR OTHER REPORTS. WITH THE ARRIVAL OF THE NEWSMEN SUPPER WAS SERVED TO THE VISITORS AND A NUMBER OF THE LEADERS OF JONESTOWN. THE NEWSMEN WERE ABLE TO SPEAK WITH JIM JONES AND OTHERS FOR SOME CONSIDERABLE TIME.

6. IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT FOLLOWING SUPPER A MUSICAL SHOW WOULD BE PRESENTED BY THE "JONESTOWN EXPRESS", A GROUP PREPARING FOR ITS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT IN JONESTOWN. MRS. JONES ANNOUNCED TO THE ASSEMBLED GROUP THAT NO ONE NEED BE PHOTOGRAPHED IF THEY DID NOT WISH TO BE. THAT THE NBC TEAM WOULD BE

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USING BRIGHT LIGHTS AND TELEVISION CAMERAS AND THAT IF ANYONE DID NOT WISH TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED, THEY SHOULD RAISE THEIR HANDS AND THE LIGHTS WOULD BE TURNED OFF AND THE TV CAMERAS TURNED AWAY FROM THEM. AS THE CONCERT PROGRESSED, HOWEVER, I OBSERVED NO INCIDENTS OF PEOPLE REFUSING TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED. THE MUSICAL SHOW CONTAINED CONSIDERABLE TALENT AND THE PEOPLE OF JONESTOWN WERE VERY ENTHUSIASTIC THROUGHOUT THE SHOW AND IN APPARENT GOOD HUMOR.

7. MIDWAY IN THE SHOW MRS. JONES GOT UP AND WARMLY INTRODUCED CONGRESSMAN RYAN, WHO CAME TO THE STAGE TO SAY A FEW WORDS. THE CONGRESSMAN NOTED THAT HE HAD ALREADY MET AT JONESTOWN SOME OF HIS FORMER STUDENTS, A SCHOOL CLASSMATE OF HIS DAUGHTER'S, AND OTHERS WITH WHOM HE HAD MUTUAL FRIENDS OR ACQUAINTANCES. HE SAID THAT HE HAD ALREADY TALKED TO A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF RESIDENTS OF JONESTOWN AND HE WAS HAPPY TO HEAR THAT A NUMBER OF THESE PEOPLE FELT THAT JONESTOWN WAS THE GREATEST PLACE ON EARTH, UPON WHICH STATEMENT THE AUDIENCE ROSE WITH ENTHUSIASTIC AND PROLONGED APPLAUSE. CONGRESSMAN RYAN THEN WENT BACK TO HIS INTERVIEWING AND THE SHOW PROGRESSED. THE CONGRESSMAN CONTINUED INTERVIEWING PERSONS ON HIS LIST, IN PRIVATE, FOLLOWING THE SHOW.

8. AT THE END OF THE EVENING I WAS APPROACHED BY MR. VERN GOSNEY, WHO ASKED ME IF I COULD ARRANGE FOR HIM TO GET OUT

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OF JONESTOWN THAT NIGHT AS HE WAS VERY, VERY FRIGHTENED AND WAS AFRAID THAT ONCE HE HAD BEEN SEEN TALKING TO ME HE WOULD BE IN EXTREME DANGER. I REPLIED THAT I COULD DO NOTHING THAT NIGHT AS I MYSELF WAS STAYING AT JONESTOWN BUT THAT MR. GOSNEY IF THAT WAS HIS WISH, WAS WELCOME TO LEAVE JONESTOWN IN THE MORNING WITH THE GROUP. I NOTED THAT MR. JONES AND LEGAL COUNSEL HAD ASSURED THE CONGRESSMAN, THE NEWSMEN AND MYSELF THAT ANYONE WHO WISHED TO LEAVE WITH US WAS FREE TO LEAVE JONESTOWN. AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME MR. GOSNEY HAD SLIPPED A NOTE TO ONE OF THE NBC CREW SAYING THAT HE AND MISS MONICA BAGBY WANTED TO LEAVE.

9. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE EVENING'S INTERVIEWING, CONGRESSMAN RYAN AND I DISCUSSED THE SITUATION. MISS BAGBY AND MR. GOSNEY WERE TWO PERSONS WHO HAD CLEARLY EXPRESSED THE DESIRE TO DEPART, AND THE CONGRESSMAN THOUGHT THAT THERE MIGHT BE OTHERS ON HIS LIST OF NAMES TO INTERVIEW WHO ALSO WISHED TO

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DEPART. HE NOTED HE WAS SAVING HIS BEST DOCUMENTED CASES FOR THE MORNING. IT WAS THEREFORE AGREED THAT MISS BAGBY AND MR. GOSNEY WOULD BE PUT ON THE CONGRESSMAN'S LIST WITH THOSE ABOUT WHOM THE MOST SERIOUS CONCERNS HAD BEEN EXPRESSED AND THAT THEY WOULD BE CALLED FOR INTERVIEWS BY THE CONGRESSMAN TOWARDS THE END OF THE NEXT MORNING, AS SHORTLY AS POSSIBLE BEFORE THE GROUP WAS SCHEDULED TO DEPART. THE CONGRESSMAN AND I AGREED THAT DESPITE MR JONES' ASSURANCES THAT PEOPLE WOULD BE FREE TO LEAVE, THERE MIGHT BE CONCERN AMONG THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE WHEN IT BECAME APPARENT THAT SOME MEMBERS WERE PREPARING TO DEPART.

10. NEXT MORNING, SATURDAY, NOV 19, THE CONGRESSMAN BEGAN THE REMAINDER OF HIS INTERVIEWS. THE NEWS GROUP RETURNED AND ALSO BEGAN INTERVIEWING LEADERS AND MEMBERS OF THE PT. IN THE MEANTIME THE PT HAD GIVEN PERMISSION FOR ONE OR TWO OTHER

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CONCERNED RELATIVES THEN IN GEORGETOWN TO COME TO JONESTOWN WITH THE PLANE THAT WAS TO PICK UP THE CONGRESSMAN'S GROUP AND TO SPEND SOME TIME IN JONESTOWN WITH THEIR RELATIVES BEFORE RETURNING TO GEORGETOWN BY COMMERCIAL MEANS. THE CONGRESSMAN AND I AGREED THAT THIS WAS UNDESIRABLE. I EXPLAINED ON THE RADIO TO CONSUL ELLICE ANSATO THE CONGRESSMAN'S HIRC AIDE, MR. JAMES SCHOLLEART, THE DECISION THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO CONCERNED RELATIVES ON THE PLANE THAT WENT UP TO PORT KAITUMA TO PICK UP THE CONGRESSMAN AND HIS PARTY.

11. THE VBC TELEVISION NEWS CREW HAD ALSO DECIDED TO TAPE ITS PRINCIPAL INTERVIEW WITH JIM JONES SHORTLY BEFORE DEPARTURE SATURDAY. THE NEWS TEAM HAD BEEN TOLD BY A LOCAL OFFICIAL AT PORT KAITUMA THE PREVIOUS EVENING. I LATER LEARNED, THAT THE OFFICIAL ALLEGED THAT HE HAD DELIVERED TO JONES AT JONESTOWN AN AUTOMATIC WEAPON AS WELL AS GOC PERMIT TO HAVE THE WEAPON. IN THE INTERVIEW, HOWEVER, JONES DENIED THIS REPORT, AS HE HAD DENIED POSSESSION OF ANYTHING MORE THAN A FEW SHOTGUNS FOR HUNTING SINCE HE ARRIVED IN GUYANA.

12. AT APPROXIMATELY 11:00, AFTER CONSULTING WITH CONGRESSMAN RYAN, I CALLED JIM JONES AND HIS LAWYERS ASIDE AND INFORMED THEM THAT THERE WOULD BE SEVERAL PEOPLE WHO WANTED TO LEAVE JONESTOWN AND THAT THESE PEOPLE WOULD DEPART WITH THE CONGRESSMAN AND MYSELF. MR. JONES WAS VISIBLY UPSET BUT WAS CALMED BY MR. LANE AND MR. GARRY, WHO BOTH POINTED OUT THAT IT APPEARED THAT ONLY A HALF DOZEN TO A DOZEN PEOPLE WISHED TO DEPART, WHICH IN ITS WAY WAS A CREDIT TO A COMMUNITY OF 1100 TO 1200 PEOPLE. CONGRESSMAN RYAN ALSO STRESSED TO MR. JONES THAT UNHINDERED DEPARTURES WOULD IMPROVE THE IMAGE AND REPUTATION OF THE PT.

13. BY APPROXIMATELY NOON, IN ADDITION TO MISS BAGBY AND MR. GOSNEY, SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE PARK FAMILY HAD EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO LEAVE AND WERE HOLDING A FAMILY COUNCIL TO DECIDE WHETHER THEY SHOULD ALL DEPART TOGETHER OR WHETHER SOME MIGHT

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REMAIN IN JONESTOWN. IT WAS ABOUT 1330 WHEN THEY DECIDED  
THAT THEY WOULD ALL DEPART AT THE SAME TIME WITH THE CONGRESS-  
MAN AND MYSELF AND HAD COLLECTED THEIR BELONGINGS. CONGRESSMAN  
RYAN AND MS. SPEIERS WENT WITH MEMBERS OF THE PARK FAMILY TO  
REASSURE THEM WHILE THEY COLLECTED THEIR BELONGINGS. THE  
FAMILY CONSISTED OF GRANDMOTHER, PARENTS AND FOUR CHILDREN  
AND MR. O'NEIL, A CLOSE FRIEND OF DAUGHTER BRENDA PARK. IT  
WAS APPARENT BY THIS TIME THAT A SECOND AIRCRAFT IN ADDITION  
TO THE GAC TWIN OTTER (WHICH COULD HOLD 19 PERSONS) WOULD  
BE NEEDED AND WAS REQUESTED BY PT RADIO. A SMALL AIRCRAFT  
OF 5 PASSENGER CAPACITY WAS THEREFORE SENT UP FROM GEORGETOWN  
SCHEDULED WITH THE OTTER TO ARRIVE IN PORT KAITUMA AT 2:00.  
ACCORDING TO MESSAGES RECEIVED FROM GEORGETOWN. AS THE  
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DEPARTURE TIME FROM JONESTOWN CAME CLOSER. THERE WERE SEVERAL OTHER PERSONS WHO EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO LEAVE TO THE CONGRESSMAN AND MYSELF. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE PEOPLE FROM JONESTOWN WOULD BE GIVEN PRIORITY ON THE PLANES AND THAT THE PRESS AND MR. GARRY, WHO WISHED TO RETURN TO GEORGETOWN, WOULD TAKE SUBSEQUENT AIRCRAFT. IN ADDITION TO THE PARK FAMILY, THE BOGUE FAMILY, CONSISTING OF JIM BOGUE, MRS. BOGUE, TINA AND TOMMY, AND A CLOSE FAMILY FRIEND, HAROLD CORDELL, WERE TO LEAVE WITH THE GROUP. AT THE LAST MOMENT, MR. LARRY LAYTON URGENTLY REQUESTED THAT HE BE PERMITTED TO LEAVE AND HE ENTERED THE TRUCK.

14. CONGRESSMAN RYAN STATED THAT AS THERE WERE APPARENTLY STILL OTHERS WHO MIGHT WISH TO LEAVE JONESTOWN, HE AND I WOULD REMAIN AT JONESTOWN TO INSURE THEIR DEPARTURE THE FOLLOWING DAY. I WAS TO ACCOMPANY THE DEPARTING GROUP TO THE AIRPORT AT PORT KAITUMA TO OVERSEE THE DEPARTURE AND TO RELATE TO THE CAPTAIN OF THE GAC AIRCRAFT THE REQUIREMENTS FOR AIRCRAFT THE FOLLOWING DAY. I WAS ALSO TO STOP AT THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER'S OFFICE AT PORT KAITUMA TO RELATE THESE MESSAGES THROUGH THAT CHANNEL TO ASSURE PROMPT AND ACCURATE RECEIPT BY THE EMBASSY.

15. THE GROUP WAS LOADED IN THE BACK OF THE LARGE TRUCK. I GOT ON LAST. THE TRUCK STARTED TO DEPART BUT SLID IN THE

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MUD AT THE SIDE OF THE TRACK. THE GROUP WAS TOLD THAT A BULLDOZER WOULD BE NECESSARY TO PUT IT BACK ON THE TRACK.

(A PREVIOUS DELAY HAD OCCURRED WHICH MS. SPEIERS ATTRIBUTED TO THE FACT THAT THE DRIVER OF THE TRUCK WANTED TO LEAVE WITH THE GROUP AND REFUSED TO DRIVE THE TRUCK OUT UNLESS HE COULD BE GIVEN ASSURANCES THAT HE COULD LEAVE. HE WAS TOLD THAT HE COULD LEAVE WITH THE GROUP THE NEXT DAY.) AS THE GROUP WAITED FOR THE BULLDOZER TO COME TO FREE THE TRUCK, SHOUTS WERE HEARD FROM THE CENTRAL PAVILLION OF JONESTOWN WHERE CONGRESSMAN RYAN WAS WAITING, TOGETHER WITH MR. AND MRS. JONES, MR. GARRY, MR. LANE AND OTHER RANKING INDIVIDUALS OF THE PT. I RAN FROM THE TRUCK TO THE PAVILLION WHERE I FOUND A SMALL GROUP SURROUNDING THE CONGRESSMAN, WHOSE CLOTHES WERE DISHEVELED AND BLOODY. THE CONGRESSMAN HAD BEEN ATTACKED BY A KNIFE BEARING DISTRAUGHT MEMBER OF THE PT WHO HAD BEEN DISARMED BY MR. LANE, MR. GARRY AND OTHERS OF THE PT. THE CONGRESSMAN WAS UNINJURED. I WAS

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TOLD THAT THE BLOOD HAD COME FROM A MINOR WOUND THE ASSAILANT HAD SUFFERED AS THE KNIFE WAS TAKEN FROM HIM. THE CONGRESSMAN TOLD JIM JONES THAT THE INCIDENT WOULD PRESENT A PROBLEM FOR THE PT BUT THAT IT WAS NOT ONE WHICH COULD NOT BE OVERCOME IF LEGAL PROCESSES WERE ALLOWED TO TAKE PLACE. JIM JONES EXPRESSED THE WISE THAT HE HIMSELF HAD BEEN KILLED DIRECTLY ON THE SPOT RATHER THAN THAT THIS INCIDENT SHOULD HAPPEN TO THE CONGRESSMAN. HE SAID THAT THE POLICE HAD BEEN CALLED. HE APPEARED DEEPLY TROUBLED. THE CONGRESSMAN AND I HAD A PRIVATE CONVERSATION IN WHICH I URGED THE NECESSITY FOR THE CONGRESSMAN TO LEAVE JONESTOWN. THE CONGRESSMAN AGREED FINALLY, TO DO SO, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT I WOULD RETURN TO JONESTOWN AND ORGANIZE THE DEPARTURE OF THOSE WHO WISHED TO DEPART THE FOLLOWING DAY AFTER THE CONGRESSMAN AND GROUP HAD LEFT PORT KAITUMA FOR GEORGETOWN. THE CONGRESSMAN AND I THEN JOINED THE TRUCK, WHICH BY THIS TIME HAD BEEN FREED FROM THE MUD, AND PROCEEDED TO THE AIRPORT AT PORT KAITUMA APPROXI-

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MATELY AN HOUR AWAY.

16. THE TRUCK STOPPED FOR A FEW MOMENTS AT THE ENTRANCE TO JONESTOWN WHERE IT WAS JOINED BY A GUARD FROM THE GATE. WHO MADE A CAREFUL SURVEY OF THE PASSENGERS IN THE TRUCK WITHOUT SPEAKING. ALTHOUGH THE TWO AIRCRAFT HAD BEEN SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE AT PORT KAITUMA AT 1400. THEY WERE NOT THERE WHEN THE GROUP ARRIVED, ABOUT 1530. DURING THE TRIP OUT. INCIDENTALLY. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE GROUP LEAVING JONESTOWN EXPRESSED TO ME AND TO OTHERS THEIR CONCERN THAT ONE LARRY LAYTON HAD BEEN PERMITTED TO JOIN THE GROUP AS THEY CONSIDERED HIM A FANATIC FOLLOWER OF MR. JONES AND DID NOT BELIEVE THAT HE ACTUALLY WISHED TO LEAVE THE ORGANIZATION.

17. UPON ARRIVAL AT THE AIRPORT I ASKED CONGRESSMAN RYAN TO BE SURE ALL MEMBERS OF THE GROUP WERE THOROUGHLY SEARCHED BEFORE BEING ALLOWED TO BOARD THE AIRCRAFT SHOULD THEY ARRIVE BEFORE MY RETURN AND TO PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO LARRY LAYTON ABOUT WHOM WE HAD BEEN WARNED.

18. AS THERE NO AIRCRAFT IN SIGHT UPON THE GROUP'S REACHING PORT KAITUMA AIRFIELD (EXCEPT FOR THE DISABLED GUYANA DEFENSE FORCE "ISLANDER" UNDER REPAIR BY FOUR GDF MEMBERS), THE COG INFORMATION OFFICER, MR.

ANNIBOURNE, WHO HAD ACCOMPANIED THE GROUP THROUGHOUT AND I ASKED THE DRIVER OF THE PT TRUCK TO TAKE US UP TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT PORT KAITUMA TO SEE IF WE COULD GET IN TOUCH WITH GEORGETOWN BY RADIO TO DETERMINE WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO THE PLANES. I ALSO WISHED TO RELAY AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AN ACCOUNT OF THE ATTACK AT JONESTOWN ON CONGRESSMAN RYAN. WE REACHED THE DISTRICT OFFICE ONLY TO BE TOLD THAT ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER THOMAS WAS ACROSS THE WAY AT A SMALL ESTABLISHMENT. AS MR. ANNIBOURNE AND I WERE CONVERSING WITH MR. THOMAS, RELATING THE EVENTS OF THE DAY TO HIM AND ASKING THAT GEORGETOWN AND THE POLICE BE CONTACTED IMMEDIATELY. THE TWO AIRPLANES

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WERE SIGHTED OVERHEAD PREPARING TO LAND AT PORT KAITUMA. THE

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LARGE JONESTOWN TRUCK IMMEDIATELY TURNED AROUND AND DEPARTED  
FOR THE AIRPORT TO THE SURPRISE OF MR. ANNIBOURNE AND MYSELF.  
WE THEREFORE PREVAILED UPON ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFER THOMAS  
FOR TRANSPORTATION TO THE AIRPORT, WHICH WAS SUPPLIED IN  
THE PERSON OF MR. JEFFREY SEMPEL, A LOCAL BUSINESSMAN, AND HIS  
TRUCK. AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A SHOTGUN, WHOM I TOOK TO BE A  
POLICE CONSTABLE, ALTHOUGH HE WAS IN MUFTI, ALSO GOT INTO  
THE BACK OF THE TRUCK. MR. SEMPEL, ACCOMPANIED BY ASSISTANT  
DISTRICT OFFICER THOMAS, AND MR. SEMPEL'S TWO SMALL CHILDREN,  
DROVE MR. ANNIBOURNE AND ME TO THE AIRPORT WHERE THE PROCESS  
OF LOADING THE AIRPLANES HAD ALREADY BEGUN. THE JOURNALISTS  
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WERE STILL ON THE GROUND AS THEY WISHED TO FILM THE DEPARTURE AND AS NOT ALL OF THEM COULD BE ACCOMMODATED IN THE TWO AIRCRAFT. THE CONGRESSMAN WAS ALSO ON THE RUNWAY. AFTER A BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH THE CONGRESSMAN REGARDING THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO MIGHT WISH TO DEPART THE FOLLOWING DAY, AND THE NECESSITY OF GETTING AN AIRCRAFT BACK TO PORT KAITUMA PROMPTLY THE NEXT DAY (DURING WHICH CONVERSATION THE CONGRESSMAN TOLD ME THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP HAD BEEN SEARCHED BEFORE THEY HAD BEEN ALLOWED ON THE PLANE), I WALKED OVER TO DISCUSS ARRANGEMENTS WITH CAPTAIN SPENCE. THE PILOT OF THE GAC AIRCRAFT, WHICH WAS MID-WAY DOWN THE AIRSTRIP. THE FIVE SEAT CESSNA WAS NEAR THE HEAD OF THE RUNWAY. CLOSE TO THE DISABLE GDP ISLANDER.

19. SHORTLY THEREAFTER SHOTS RANG OUT FROM A TRACTOR AND TWO TRAILERS BELONGING TO THE PT WHICH HAD BEEN PARKED AT THE SIDE OF THE RUNWAY NEAREST THE AIRCRAFT. SHOTS ALSO BEGAN FROM THE PT TRUCK PARKED IN FRONT OF THE AIRPLANE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RUNWAY. CONGRESSMAN RYAN RAN UNDER THE NOSE OF THE AIRCRAFT OR CLOSE BY THE NOSE OF THE AIRCRAFT TO GET AWAY FROM THE SHOTS COMING FROM THE TRACTOR AND TWO TRAILERS. AS DID I. I SAW THE CONGRESSMAN HIT ONCE AND GO DOWN, APPARENTLY ATTEMPTING TO SEEK SHELTER BEHIND THE WHEELS OF THE AIRCRAFT. BY THIS TIME I REALIZED THAT SHOTS WERE COMING FROM BOTH SIDES AND THAT THERE WAS LITTLE HOPE OF

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BEING ABLE TO COVER THE DISTANCE FROM THE AIRPLANE TO THE SIDE OF THE RUNWAY AND INTO THE SHELTER OF THE BUSH. I ALSO SAW THAT AT LEAST ONE AND POSSIBLY TWO OTHERS OF THE GROUP HAD ALREADY BEEN HIT. I THEREFORE THREW MYSELF ON THE GROUND ON MY BACK TO SIMULATE DEATH. AS I WAS FALLING I WAS HIT BY A SLUG FROM WHAT APPARENTLY WAS A SMALL CALIBRE WEAPON, POSSIBLY A 22, IN MY LEFT THIGH. THE FIRING CONTINUED FOR SEVERAL MINUTES AND THEN THERE WAS A SHORT PAUSE BEFORE THE FIRING RECOMMENCED. IT SEEMED TO ME THAT ONE OR MORE OF THE ASSAILANTS WITH SHOTGUNS WAS PROCEEDING AMONGST THE WOUNDED, FIRING A BLAST AT EACH OF THEM. FOR UNKNOWN REASONS I WAS NOT SHOT BY THOSE WITH THE SHOTGUNS NOR, IT DEVELOPED LATER, WAS MR. CHARLES KRAUSE OF THE "WASHINGTON POST", WHO LATER TOLD ME THAT HE ALSO HAD FEIGNED DEATH ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CONGRESSMAN. THE TRUCK AND TRACTOR WERE HEARD TO DRIVE AWAY AND AFTER A

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FEW MOMENTS THOSE WHO HAD NOT BEEN WOUNDED AND THE AMBULATORY WOUNDED BEGAN TO GET TO THEIR FEET. THE PILOTS OF THE OTTER AIRCRAFT, STILL IN THE COCKPIT, HAD NOT BEEN ATTACKED AND THE ENGINES OF THE PLANE WERE CONTINUING TO RUN. I WENT OVER TO THE COMPRESSION MAN, WHO HAD BEEN BADLY HIT. IT WAS CLEAR THAT HE WAS DEAD; I THEN MOVED THE BODY AWAY FROM UNDER THE WHEELS OF THE AIRCRAFT AND CHECKED ON THE OTHERS. THE NBC NEWSMEN, BOB BROWN AND DON HARRIS, WERE BOTH LYING DEAD UNDER AND TO THE REAR OF THE AIRCRAFT. I RAN AROUND TO THE STEPS OF THE AIRCRAFT WHERE MR. GREG ROBINSON OF THE SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER LAY CRUMPLED, ALSO APPARENTLY KILLED INSTANTLY. I CANNOT RECALL WHETHER I FIRST SAW MS. JACKIE SPEIERS STILL ON BOARD THE AIRCRAFT OR AT THE FOOT OF THE STEPS. I APPEARED EVIDENT, HOWEVER, THAT SHE WAS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED AS WAS MR. ANTHONY KATSORSIS, WHO LAY NEAR THE FOOT OF THE AIRCRAFT STEPS. I RAN UP THE STEPS OF THE AIRCRAFT WHERE I FOUND THAT MRS. PATRICIA PARK HAD RECEIVED WHAT APPEARED TO BE THE FULL BLAST OF A SHOTGUN IN THE BACK OF HER HEAD. SHE WAS

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LEANING ACROSS THE AISLE OF THE AIRPLANE. WITH THE HELP OF A LOCAL AMERINDIAN WHO APPEARED ON THE SCENE I REMOVED THE BODY FROM THE AIRCRAFT IN THE HOPE THAT THE AIRCRAFT COULD STILL FLY. BUT ONLY THEN NOTED THAT THE LEFT HAND TIRES HAD BEEN SHOT OUT. I DO NOT RECALL SEEING ANY OTHER PASSENGERS ON THE AIRCRAFT AND PRESUMED THEY HAD RUN TOWARDS THE HEAVY BUSH ON THE NEAR SIDE OF THE RUNWAY. THOSE REMAINING UNHURT AND SOME LOCAL RESIDENTS CARRIED MR. KATSORSIS, MS. SPEIERS AND NBC NEWSMAN STEPHEN SUNG, ALSO SERIOUSLY INJURED, INTO THE BUSH AT THE SIDE OF THE RUNWAY.

20. THE MAJOR CONCERN OF THE GROUP WAS THAT THE PT ASSAILANTS MIGHT RETURN TO COMPLETE THE ASSASSINATIONS. THE WOUNDED WERE THEREFORE MOVED INTO THE BUSH AND THOSE ABLE TO WALK STAYED NEAR THE BUSH. MR. BOB FLICK OF THE NBC NEWS TEAM WHO HAD TAKEN SHELTER IN A SMALL CORRUGATED STEEL BUILDING AT THE SIDE OF THE RUNWAY WITH SEVERAL GUYANESE AND WAS NOT INJURED BY THE GUNFIRE DIRECTED TOWARDS HIM, RAN DOWN THE RUNWAY TO WHERE THE OTHER LIGHT PLANE WAS. THERE WERE FOUR MEMBERS OF THE GDF AT THE DISABLED GDF ISLANDER, THREE OF WHOM HAD AUTOMATIC WEAPONS AND THE COMMANDING OFFICER, LT. JOSEPE WHO HAD AN AUTOMATIC PISTOL. LT JOSEPE LATER TOLD ME THAT NONE OF HIS GROUP HAD DISCHARGED THEIR WEAPONS BECAUSE THEY COULD NOT TELL THE ASSAILANTS FROM THE VICTIMS AS ALL WERE AMERICANS AND THE INCIDENT WAS OVER SO QUICKLY.

21. MR. FERNANDES, THE PILOT OF THE CESSNA, JOINED THE GROUP NEAR THE OTTER, WHERE HE TOLD ME THAT ONE OF HIS PASSENGERS HAD ATTEMPTED TO KILL THE OTHER PASSENGERS WITH A REVOLVER AND HAD SERIOUSLY WOUNDED AT LEAST TWO. MR. DALS PARK, WHO HAD BEEN A PASSENGER ON MR. FERNANDES' CESSNA, TOLD ME THAT THE PASSENGERS CONSISTED OF MISS MONICA BAGBY, MR. VERN GOSNEY, MR. LARRY LAYTON, HIMSELF AND ONE OTHER. HE

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STATED THAT AS THE CESSNA WAS PREPARING TO DEPART, MR. LAYTON SHOT MISS BAGBY AND MR. GOSNEY ONCE EACH IN THE BACK. THE DOOR OF THE PLANE THEN WAS OPENED AND MISS BAGBY AND MR.

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GOSNEY RAN OUT OF THE PLANE AND WERE SHOT AGAIN ONCE EACH BY MR. LAYTON, WHO THEN TURNED THE GUN ON MR. PARK. MR. PARK STATED THAT THERE WAS ONE FURTHER DISCHARGE OF THE WEAPON BUT THAT HE WAS NOT INJURED AND WAS ABLE TO TAKE THE WEAPON AWAY FROM MR. LAYTON AFTER A STRUGGLE AND ATTEMPT TO DISCHARGE IT AT MR. LAYTON, WITH OUT RESULT. LAYTON THEN IS SAID TO HAVE DISAPPEARED TEMPORARILY. (ONE OF THE GDF SOLDIERS STATIONED BY THE GDF AIRCRAFT UNDER REPAIR NEAR THE CESSNA LATER TOLD ME THAT HE THOUGH MR. LAYTON HAD LEFT THE AREA WITH THE PT  
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ACTION ARA-15

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASEDC IMMEDIATE 0291

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GROUP.) SUBSEQUENTLY, HOWEVER, MR. LAYTON WAS IDENTIFIED BY SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE PARK FAMILY AND OTHERS MINGLING WITH THE GROUP OF SURVIVORS AT THE SIDE OF THE RUNWAY NEAR THE DISABLED OTTER.

22. BY THE TIME I HAD TAKEN POSSESSION OF THE REVOLVER FROM MR. PARK AND ONE ROUND OF AMMUNITION WHICH MR. PARK SAID HAD APPARENTLY FAILED TO FIRE. TWO GUYANESE IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES ASSERTING THAT THEY WERE ASSOCIATED WITH THE GUYANESE AUTHORITIES HAD HOLD OF MR. LAYTON AND SAID THAT THEY WOULD ESCORT HIM TO JAIL. I HEARD MR. LAYTON TELL THESE INDIVIDUALS THAT HE WAS AN AMERICAN CITIZEN RESIDENT IN GUYANA. THAT HE DENIED THE CRIMES OF WHICH HE HAD BEEN ACCUSED AND THAT HE INSISTED UPON HIS RIGHT TO BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL BY THE GUYANESE LEGAL PROCESS AND THAT HE DEMANDED TO SEE THE AREA PUBLIC PROSECUTOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. MR. LAYTON WAS TAKEN AWAY. AT ABOUT THIS TIME THE CESSNA AIRCRAFT BEGAN TO TAKE OFF. APPARENTLY CONTAINING CAPTAIN SPENCE FROM THE GAC OTTER AND HIS CO-PILOT, AND PILOT FERNANDES. AS THE AIRCRAFT BEGAN TO TAKE OFF I RAN TOWARD IT TO FLAG IT DOWN SO AS TO TAKE OUT SOME OF THE WOUNDED. CAPTAIN SPENCE GESTURED TO THE REAR OF THE AIRCRAFT, WHICH I TOOK TO MEAN THAT THERE HAD BEEN ANOTHER APPEARANCE OF THE GROUP FROM THE PT AND THE SURVIVORS AND I THEREFORE ONCE AGAIN TOOK TO THE BUSH. I WAS LATER TO LEARN THAT CAPTAIN SPENCE APPARENTLY

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WAS GESTURING TO THE BACK OF THE AIRCRAFT WHERE MONSIEUR LAGBY WHOM THEY HAD PUT ON BOARD.

23. NUMEROUS GUYANESE APPROACHED THE SURVIVORS CAUTIOUSLY. WE PREVAILED UPON ONE INDIVIDUAL WITH A LAND ROVER TO REQUEST HELP FROM THE CLINIC IN PORT KAITUMA. PAIN KILLERS AT THE VERY LEAST, AND HOPEFULLY MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE WOUNDED TO THE CLINIC. THE INDIVIDUAL DID RETURN, STATING THAT ALL RESIDENTS OF PORT KAITUMA HAD BEEN ORDERED TO STAY INDOORS. THAT THE PRACTITIONERS WERE AFRAID TO HELP THE SURVIVORS TO THE CENTER AT PORT KAITUMA, WHICH THEY FELT, IN ANY EVENT, MIGHT BE UNSAFE. THE MAN DID, HOWEVER, DELIVER A PACKAGE OF PAIN KILLERS.

24. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT BEFORE CAPTAIN SPENCE'S DEPARTURE AND WHILE HE WAS IN RADIO CONTACT WITH GUYANESE AUTHORITIES ELSEWHERE, EITHER IN MATTHEWS RIDGE OR GEORGETOWN, HE AS URED

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ME THAT ASSISTANCE WOULD BE IMMEDIATELY ON THE WAY. THIS WAS AT APPROXIMATELY 1630 HOURS WHICH MEANT THAT THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN TIME FOR AN AIRCRAFT TO REACH PORT KAITUMA FROM GEORGETOWN BEFORE NIGHT HAD IT LEFT IMMEDIATELY. WITH THIS ASSURANCE, THE GROUP ASSEMBLED BY THE EDGE OF THE RUNWAY. SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS WERE MISSING-MR. JAMES COBB, MR. O'NEIL, THE PARK CHILDREN, TRACY AND BRENDA, AND THE FOGUE CHILDREN, TINA AND TOMMY. THEY HAD RUN DEEP INTO THE BUSH AND COULD NOT BE LOCATED. I TALKED WITH THE LIEUTENANT IN CHARGE OF THE SMALL DETACHMENT AT THE GDF PLANE AT THE HEAD OF THE RUNWAY, REQUESTING THE GOTS OF THE FOUR MAN DETACHMENT TO BE USED AS STRETCHERS. THE LIEUTENANT AGREED THAT THE WOUNDED COULD BE BROUGHT TO HIS FOUR MAN UNIT'S TENT BUT RECOMMENDED THAT THIS BE DONE AFTER DARK. IN HOPES THAT AN AIRCRAFT MIGHT STILL ARRIVE, THE GROUP REMAINED CLOSE TO THE BUSH NEAR THE OTHER WIDE THE WOUNDED HIDDEN IN THE BUSH

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UNTIL AFTER 2200. WHEN THE WOUNDED WERE CARRIED DOWN TO THE GDF TENT WHERE THEY WERE MADE AS COMFORTABLE AS POSSIBLE. THE WOUNDED CONSISTED OF MS. SPEIERS, MR. SUNG, MR. KATSORSIS, AND MR. GOSNEY, WHO HAD BEEN LOCATED LYING WOUNDED IN THE BUSH BY SOME AMERINDIANS. THROUGHOUT IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT SEVERAL RESIDENTS OF THE AREA IMMEDIATELY SURROUNDING THE AIRFIELD AND PARTICULARLY THE CLIENTS OF JEFF SEMPEL'S TAVERN WERE OF GREAT ASSISTANCE TO THE GROUP. THEY WARNED US OF THE POSSIBILITY OF ATTACK FROM THE FAR END OF THE RUNWAY, HELPED CARRY THE WOUNDED AND HELPED SEARCH FOR THOSE LOST IN THE BUSH.

25. AT THIS POINT THE DECISION HAD TO BE MADE WHETHER TO ATTEMPT TO KEEP THE AMBULATORY MEMBERS OF THE GROUP TOGETHER IN ONE PLACE TO FACILITATE THEIR DEPARTURE SHOULD TRANSPORTATION ARRIVE, OR WHETHER IT WOULD BE SAFER TO ATTEMPT TO SCATTER THEM, EITHER IN THE BUSH OR AMONGST THE HOUSES OF INHABITANTS LIVING NEAR THE AIRPORT, IF POSSIBLE. I ELECTED THE FORMER OPTION AND WITH THE ASSURANCES OF MR. SEMPEL THAT HIS FAMILY WOULD WELCOME THE GROUP, TWO PERSONS WERE LEFT TO STAY WITH THE WOUNDED AND THE REST OF THE GROUP ASSEMBLED IN MR. SEMPEL'S TAVERN ABOUT ONE BLOCK FROM THE HEAD OF THE RUNWAY. MR. SEMPEL OFFERED THE USE OF HIS LIVING QUARTERS FOR THE GROUP WHICH WERE ABOVE THE TAVERN PROPER AND WHERE THE GROUP GRATEFULLY ASSEMBLED. THE NORMAL SATURDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES OF THE TAVERN CONTINUED BELOW, IN SOME MEASURE SERVING AS CAMOUFLAGE FOR THE GROUP.

26. ABOUT 2320 HOURS ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER THOMAS APPEARED AT THE TAVERN TO STATE THAT HE HAD JUST COME OUT OF THE BUSH WHERE HE HAD TAKEN COVER WHEN THE SHOTS BEGAN. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE AUTHORITIES BY RADIO FROM HIS OFFICE IN PORT KAITUMA AND THAT AN AIRCRAFT WOULD BE SENT IN SHORTLY TO BE GUIDED BY LIGHTED OIL POTS ALONGSIDE THE RUNWAY. THIS TACTIC HAD APPARENTLY BEEN USED IN THE PAST

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BY THE RE WHEN THEY HAD AN URGENT NEED FOR MEDICAL EVACUATIONS

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AT NIGHT. MR. THOMAS AND I RETURNED TO THE AIRPORT TO DISCUSS  
WITH LT. JOSEPH OF THE FOUR MAN DETACHMENT THE PLACING OF  
THE OIL LIGHTS AND AWAITED THE AIRCRAFT.

27. MR. THOMAS RETURNED TO HIS OFFICE. IT BECAME APPARENT  
THAT THE AIRCRAFT WOULD NOT COME IN THAT NIGHT. MR. FOR  
FLICK OF NBC REFUSED TO LEAVE THE WOUNDED AND NURSED THEM  
TO THE BEST OF HIS ABILITY THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT. I ALSO  
STAYED WITH THE WOUNDED TO BE ON HAND AT THE ARRIVAL OF THE  
FIRST AIRCRAFT AFTER INSTRUCTING THE GROUP AT THE TAVERN  
THAT NO ONE WAS TO LEAVE UNDER ANY CONDITIONS UNLESS MR.

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ACTION ARA-15

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0292

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FELICK, MYSELF, OR A GOC OFFICIAL GAVE PERMISSION WHETHER

OR NOT AN AIRCRAFT WAS HEARD TO LAND.

29. AT APPROXIMATELY 0130 OR 0200 IN THE MORNING A MESSAGE CAME FROM LT. JOSEPH THAT THERE WAS A RADIO TELEPHONE MESSAGE FOR HIM FROM MATTHEWS RIDGE FROM HIS COMMANDING OFFICER. I ACCOMPANIED HIM TO THE TELEPHONE WHERE I WAS ABLE TO CONVERSE WITH JOSEPH'S COMMANDING OFFICER, MAJOR RONNIE JOHNSON, AND WITH SECOND SECRETARY LEW BARRETT OF THE U.S. EMBASSY, WHO HAD ACCOMPANIED MAJOR JOHNSON.

29. MAJOR JOHNSON INFORMED ME THAT A COMPANY OF TROOPS, APPROXIMATELY 120 MEN, WERE BEING SENT FROM MATTHEWS RIDGE TO PORT KAITUMA BY RAIL BUT THAT THEY HAD ORDERS TO DISMOUNT FIVE MILES BEFORE PORT KAITUMA AND WALK IN. I EXPRESSED THE HOPE TO MAJOR JOHNSON AND THE AUTHORITIES IN PORT KAITUMA THAT EVERY EFFORT BE MADE TO GET A GROUP OF SOLDIERS AT THE AIRPORT BEFORE DAWN, AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, TO OPPOSE ANY EFFORT BY THE PT TO AMBUSH RESCUE AIRCRAFT WHICH IT WAS HOPED WOULD ARRIVE AT DAWN. THE FIRST TROOPS ARRIVED AT ABOUT 0630, JUST AFTER DAWN, AND WERE INSTALLED AT THE AIRPORT. BY APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR LATER THE FULL COMPANY WAS ON HAND GUARDING THE PERIMETERS OF THE AIRPORT AND SIX SOLDIERS WITH AUTOMATIC WEAPONS AT MY REQUEST WERE ASSIGNED TO THE TAVERN TO GUARD THE AMERICANS STAYING THERE. A PARAMEDIC

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ARRIVED WITH THE TROOPS AND ASSISTED THE WOUNDED.

30. THE FIRST RESCUE AIRCRAFT, A GDF ISLANDER, ARRIVED AT APPROXIMATELY 0945-1000 IN THE MORNING. IT ARRIVED WITHOUT ANY MEDICAL FACILITIES, WITHOUT STRETCHERS, WITHOUT BLANKETS, WITHOUT MATTRESSES. THE THREE MOST SERIOUSLY WOUNDED WERE LAID ON THE BARE FLOOR OF THE CABIN FROM WHICH THE SEATS HAD BEEN REMOVED. AND TWO OTHERS, LESS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED AND WHO COULD SIT, WERE ALSO PUT IN THE AIRCRAFT AND SENT TO GEORGETOWN. OTHER GUYANESE AIRCRAFT WERE SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

31. AT THIS TIME IT BECAME APPARENT THAT THERE WAS A SERIOUS PROBLEM WITH PEOPLE WHO HAD FLED PEOPLE'S TEMPLE. NAMELY, THE PARK AND ROGUE FAMILIES AND MR. CORDYLL. THESE WERE THE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAD TOLD ME OF THE POSSIBLE TREASON OF MR. LAYTON AND WHO STATED THAT THEY FELT THEMSELVES, AS THE FIRST TO LEAVE JONESTOWN, THE NUMBER ONE TARGETS OF ANY JONESTOWN

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ASSASSINS WHO MIGHT STILL BE HUNTING FOR THEM. THEY STATED THAT THE MAIN JONESTOWN SECURITY TEAM HAD CONSISTED OF THE BASKETBALL TEAM CURRENTLY IN GEORGETOWN. THIS MADE THEM VERY FEARFUL OF BEING SENT TO GEORGETOWN. THEY CLAIMED THAT THEY KNEW OF PLANS IN THE EVENT PEOPLE TRIED TO ESCAPE FROM JONESTOWN WHEREBY TEAMS OF SHARPSHOOTERS IN GEORGETOWN WOULD ATTEMPT TO PICK THEM OFF AS THEY LANDED AT OR DEPARTED FROM THE GEORGETOWN AIRPORT. THEY ALSO MAINTAINED THAT THE PT HAD OTHER SUCH SHARPSHOOTERS AT TRINIDAD AND CARACAS AND THEY FEARED THAT THERE WERE INFILTRATORS AMONGST THE JONESTOWN GROUP THAT HAD BEGUN TO STRAGGLE INTO MATTHEWS RIDGE. THE SECOND PROBLEM WAS THE FIVE CHILDREN LOST IN THE JUNGLE. THE FAMILIES FELT THEY COULD NOT LEAVE PORT KAITUMA WITHOUT THE CHILDREN OR WITHOUT SOME WORD AS TO THEIR SAFETY. I PROMISED TO ATTEMPT TO TRANSFER THE GROUP AT TIMEFRI AIRPORT

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TO THE AMERICAN MILITARY MEDICAL AIRCRAFT WHICH WOULD BE DEPARTING GEORGETOWN SHORTLY IF IT HAD ROOM FOR THE GROUP. THIS MESSAGE WAS CONVEYED BY ME THROUGH THE AIRCRAFT COMMANDER AND MILITARY OFFICIALS FOR RELAY TO TIMEFRI. SECONDLY, I URGED EACH FAMILY TO LEAVE ONE MALE MEMBER AT PORT KAITUMA TO TAKE CARE OF THE CHILDREN SHOULD THEY BE FOUND. I SPOKE DIRECTLY WITH POLICE SUPERINTENDENT SMITH AND THE DEPUTY GDF COMMANDER-----ON THE SUBJECT OF THE CHILDREN IN THE BUSH AND WAS ASSURED BY BOTH THAT THE GUYANESE AUTHORITIES WOULD DEVOTE AS MUCH HELP TO THE SEARCH AS POSSIBLE.

32. AT ABOUT THIS TIME MR. JIM COBB EMERGED FROM THE BUSH. STATING THAT HE HAD BEEN IN THE BUSH EVER SINCE HE HAD RUN THERE THE PREVIOUS AFTERNOON. HE HAD NOT SEEN THE OTHER MISSING PERSONS IN THE BUSH. SECOND SECRETARY LEN BARRETT OF THE EMBASSY IN GEORGETOWN ARRIVED BY HELICOPTER FROM MATTHEWS RIDGE TO ASSIST WITH THE CARE OF THE AMERICANS. IN WHAT WAS EXPECTED TO BE THE LAST AIRCRAFT OF THE DAY FOR GEORGETOWN, THE MEMBERS OF THE PARK AND BOGUE FAMILIES. MR. CORDELL AND MR. COBB WERE FLOWN TO GEORGETOWN. (ONE MEMBER OF EACH FAMILY REMAINED TO SEARCH FOR THE CHILDREN) SUBSEQUENTLY AN AIRCRAFT ARRIVED TO TRANSPORT THE BODIES OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN AND THE FOUR OTHER DEAD AMERICANS TO GEORGETOWN. MR. BARRETT AND I ACCOMPANIED THIS AIRCRAFT TO OGLE FIELD IN GEORGETOWN.

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ORIGIN SCS-06

INFO OCT-21 ARA-11 ISO-00 CA-01 SS-15 SSO-02 H-01 L-03  
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APPROVED BY ARA:JBUSFWELL

CA/SCS:AJISE

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TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 303080

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES, GY (PEOPLE TEMPLE)

SUBJECT: GUYANESE DEATH CERTIFICATES

1. DELAWARE AUTHORITIES WILL NOT REPEAT NOT PERMIT  
BODIES TO TRANSIT DELAWARE WITHOUT A DEATH CERTIFICATE.  
ACCORDINGLY, WE WILL NEED THESE DOCUMENTS SOONEST IF WE  
ARE TO AUTHORIZE RELEASE OF REMAINS TO NEXT-OF-KIN AND  
IF WE ARE TO AVOID ANY ADVERSE CRITICISM.

2. EMBASSY REQUESTED ADVISE SOONEST WHEN DEATH CERTIFICATES  
WILL BE OBTAINED FROM SOG ON FORTY-SIX IDENTIFIED AND EOW  
QUICKLY GUYANESE AUTHORITIES WILL OR CAN MOVE ON THIS  
MATTER. CAN POUCHES BE SENT DAILY OR AS NEEDED TO  
DEPARTMENT WITH CERTIFICATES.

3. DEATH CERTIFICATES SHOULD BE SENT URGENTLY TO ATTENTION:  
ALAN A. GISE, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE, SCS.

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ROOM 4800 NEW STATE. VANCE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/NE

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FOR DOT ADJUTANT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TO ADJUTANT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-00 CA-01 SS-15 SSO-00 SY-05  
SYE-00 FBI-00 PA-02 H-02 CIA-00 INR-10 NSAF-00  
DODE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 JCAE-00 /057 W

049123 011622Z /42

O 011505Z DEC 78

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASEDC IMMEDIATE 0294

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 4048

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: CASC, OREP (RYAN, LEO), GY

SUBJECT: FBI PRESENCE-MEETING WITH MINISTER GREEN

1. AMBASSADOR AND DIXONS MET WITH MINISTER HAMILTON GREEN THIS MORNING AT HIS REQUEST. GREEN EXPRESSED MODERATE DISPLEASURE AT EMBASSY CONSULAR STAFF'S ACTIONS OF YESTERDAY IN POSTING JONESTOWN AREA WITH CONSULAR SEAL. AMBASSADOR REMINDED GREEN THAT HE HAD TRIED BUT WAS UNABLE TO REACH THE MINISTER WHO WAS TIED UP ALL DAY WITH THE PRIME MINISTER AND WENT ON TO SAY THAT IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES HE FELT HE HAD TO PROCEED TO DISCHARGE HIS CONSULAR RESPONSIBILITY WITHOUT DELAY.

2. WITH RESPECT TO THE FOUR FBI PERSONNEL, THE AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED MILD SURPRISE AT THE NEWS ITEM IN FRIDAY'S GUYANA CHRONICLE WHICH STATES THAT THE GOG HAS AGREED TO ACCEPT A VISIT BY A TEAM OF FBI AGENTS WHO WILL COLLECT INFORMATION ON THE DEATH OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN AND ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PT. GREEN SAID THE NEWS WAS RELEASED IN ERROR BUT THAT IT NOW DID NOT PRESENT A SERIOUS PROBLEM TO THE GOG.

3. ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE WITH GREEN FOR FBI REPRESENTATIVES TO MEET WITH CECIL "SKIN" ROBERTS, CHIEF, CID, TO BEGIN

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INVESTIGATIVE INTERFACE IMMEDIATELY.

4. MINISTER GREEN AGREED TO CONTINUING VISITS TO JONESTOWN BY FBI AGENTS AND CONSULAR STAFF MEMBERS PROVIDED PRIOR CLEARANCE IS GRANTED IN EACH CASE. HE SAID HE INTENDED TO GO TO JONESTOWN, POSSIBLY ON SUNDAY, TO INSPECT THE SITE. AMBASSADOR BURKE OFFERED THE USE OF A USG HELICOPTER FOR THE MINISTER'S TRIP AND FOR OTHER JONESTOWN RELATED TRAVEL FOR AS LONG AS THE HELICOPTERS REMAIN AT THE EMBASSY'S DISPOSAL.

5. COMMENT: THERE IS NO LONGER ANY NEED TO EMBARGO IN THE UNITED STATES THE NEWS OF THE FBI TEAM'S VISIT TO GUYANA. NEWS RELEASES SHOULD PROBABLY EMPHASIZE THE TECHNICAL NATURE OF THE FBI ACTIVITY IN GUYANA.

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8298

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 4053

E.O. 12065 N/A

TAGS: CASC (PEOPLE'S TEMPLE)

SUBJECT	TRIAL DATES
1. <u>1945-1946</u>	
2. <u>1947-1948</u>	
3. <u>1949-1950</u>	
4. <u>1951-1952</u>	
5. <u>1953-1954</u>	
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32. <u>2007-2008</u>	
33. <u>2009-2010</u>	
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35. <u>2013-2014</u>	
36. <u>2015-2016</u>	
37. <u>2017-2018</u>	
38. <u>2019-2020</u>	
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111. <u>2165-2166</u>	
112. <u>2167-2168</u>	
113. <u>2169-2170</u>	
114. <u>2171-2172</u>	
115. <u>2173-2174</u>	
116. <u>2175-2176</u>	

REF: A) GEORGETOWN 3821

3) GEORGETOWN

C) GEORGETOWN 39 32

1. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THE PRELIMINARY HEARING IN CONNECTION WITH THE MURDERS OF SHARON AMOS AND HER CHILDREN IS SET FOR DECEMBER 4, 1978 (REFS A & B).

2. THE DATE FOR THE PRELIMINARY HEARING OF THE MURDERS OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN AND PARTY (RTT. C) IS TENTATIVELY SET FOR DECEMBER 6, 1979 BUT THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT THERE MAY BE SOME SLIPPAGE ON THIS. WE WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED.

**BURKE**

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR  
REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
PRIORITY OF TEXT, DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
TO: \_\_\_\_\_ FROM(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
BY: \_\_\_\_\_ THINGS ☐  
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PART OF YOUR COLLECTIONS

PRUE EMMA L  
78 GEORGETOWN 4057

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PAGE 01

GEORGE 04057 040307Z

ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-20 CIAT-00 INR-10 NSAT-00 PA-02 ICA-20  
SP-02 SCS-06 CA-01 PPT-01 ST-05 FRIE-00 SS-15  
L-03 H-02 NSC-05 SSO-00 /000 W

024653 0406137 /15

R 011030Z DEC 78

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8301

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 4057

E.O. 12065 V/A

TAGS CASC, OREP (RYAN, LEO), GY

SUBJECT: GOG DENIES THAT ANY MEMBER OF PEOPLES' TEMPLE GRANTED  
GUYANESE CITIZENSHIP

REF: GEORGETOWN 4016

1. GOVERNMENT-OWNED "GUYANA CHRONICLE" OF DECEMBER 1  
REPORTED THAT A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
HAD EXPLAINED ON NOVEMBER 30 THAT "NO MEMBERS OF THE  
PEOPLE'S TEMPLE WERE GRANTED GUYANESE CITIZENSHIP EARLIER  
THIS YEAR AS HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN REPORTED BY THE PRESS.

2. THE SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED THAT FIVE MEMBERS OF THE  
PEOPLE'S TEMPLE HAD APPLIED FOR GUYANESE CITIZENSHIP, BUT  
"THEIR APPLICATIONS WERE UNDER CONSIDERATION," ACCORDING  
TO THE CHRONICLE.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/HR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

EDS/MS IDENT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_

ECN. \_\_\_\_\_

D.C. \_\_\_\_\_

REMA. \_\_\_\_\_

PL. OF FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR  
RECEIVED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
FDS ☐ FDS-204 DATE \_\_\_\_\_ (S) ☐  
TS APPR. \_\_\_\_\_  
EVALUATION \_\_\_\_\_  
RELEASE \_\_\_\_\_  
PA OF FDS \_\_\_\_\_

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GROSS MARGARET A  
75 GEORGETOWN 4264

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PAGE 01 GFORCE 04264 012053Z  
ACTION 42A-15  
INFO OCT-01 150-00 SCS-06 H-02 CA-01 SS-15 DODE-00  
SSO-00 /040 W

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O R 012000Z DEC 79  
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9306  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO  
UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 4064  
E.O. 12065: N/A  
TAGS: CY. OREP. (RYAN, LFO)  
SUBJECT: FOREIGN DISASTER EMERGENCY RELIEF  
REF: A. CARACAS 11175/  
P. TELCON DIFEOS/COX

SUMMARY: A FOREIGN DISASTER SITUATION EXISTS IN GUYANA  
AND ALLOTMENT \$30,000 IS REQUIRED TO LEASE A STOL-TYPE  
PLANE FOR ONE MONTH. END SUMMARY

1. PRIME MINISTER FORBES BURNHAM HAS REQUESTED THE UNITED  
STATES TO PROVIDE THE SERVICES OF ONE STOL PLANE TO OVERCOME  
DISASTER SITUATION RESULTING FROM INABILITY OF GUYANESE  
GOVERNMENT TO SEND ADEQUATE VITAL SUPPLIES TO ISOLATED  
AREAS AND TO ASSURE TRANSPORT OF PERSONS NEEDING MEDICAL  
ATTENTION TO THE HOSPITAL IN GEORGETOWN.

2. I HAVE REVIEWED THIS SITUATION AND HAVE CONCLUDED THAT  
A FOREIGN DISASTER EMERGENCY SITUATION EXISTS OF A MAGNITUDE  
TO REQUIRE OUTSIDE HELP AND THAT IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF  
THE UNITED STATES TO OFFER EMERGENCY DISASTER ASSISTANCE.  
THE FORMAL DETERMINATION WILL BE PREPARED UPON NOTIFICATION  
FROM WASHINGTON THAT NECESSARY FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE.

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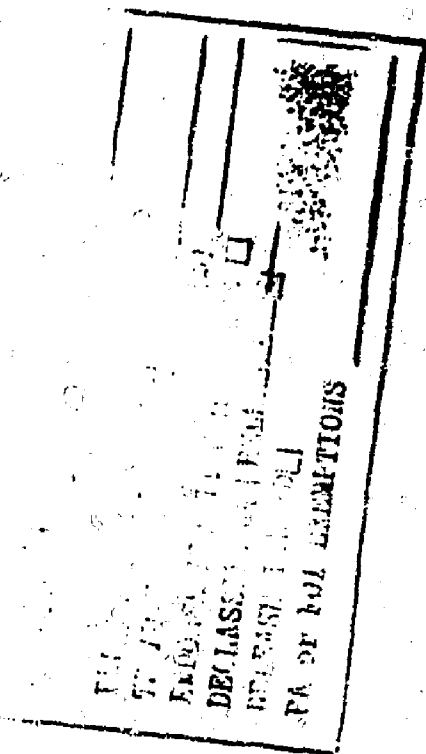
PAGE 02 GEORGE 04264 012053Z

3. EMERGENCY ARISES FROM LOSS AT PORT KAITUMA ON NOV 19  
OF ONE OF TWO TWIN OTTER PLANES. IT IS EXPECTED THAT ONE  
MORE MONTH WILL BE REQUIRED TO PUT DAMAGED PLANE BACK IN  
COMMISSION. THIS LOSS LEAVES GUYANA AIRWAYS CORPORATION  
(GAC) WITH ONLY ONE TWIN OTTER PLANE TO SERVICE ISOLATED  
AREAS DEPENDENT ON STOL-TYPE AIRCRAFT. SEVENTEEN OF TWENTY-  
FOUR AIRFIELDS SERVED BY GAC ARE DEPENDENT ON STOL-TYPE  
AIRCRAFT SINCE THEIR LANDING STRIPS CANNOT BE USED BY TWO  
DAWKER-SIDLEY 740'S WHICH ARE ONLY OTHER PLANES AVAILABLE  
TO GAC. EVEN PRIOR TO LOSS PLANE, GAC WAS HAVING DIFFICULTY  
MEETING NEEDS OF PEOPLE IN ISOLATED INTERIOR AREAS. DEPLETION  
FLEET, AS DC3'S AND CARIBOU'S BECAME INOPERABLE, HAD FORCED  
REDUCTION OF FLYING TIME FROM 6,800 HOURS IN 1977 TO  
SCHEDULED 4,000 HOURS IN 1978, A REDUCTION OF 30 PERCENT. WITH LOSS  
TWIN OTTER, THERE IS SERIOUS PROBLEM IN INTERIOR, PARTICULARLY  
IN NORTHWEST, PARARAIMA AREA AND MAZARUNI-PTOARO AREA.  
MINING COMMUNITIES IN LATTER AREA ARE DEPENDENT ON STOL FLIGHTS  
NOT ONLY FOR FUEL AND MEDICINES BUT ALSO FOR MOST OF THEIR

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79 GEORGETOWN 4064

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FOODSTUFFS. BACKLOG OF AIR SHIPMENTS TO MAZARONI-POTARO AREA  
ALONE TOTALS 73,000 POUNDS, AN AMOUNT WHICH WILL REQUIRE  
OVER 20 FLIGHTS.

4. GUYANA REQUIRES PLANE OF GENERAL SIZE AND CAPABILITY OF  
TWIN OTTER. IF TWIN OTTER AVAILABLE FOR LEASE WITHOUT CREW,  
GAC CAN SUPPLY FULLY TRAINED CREW. EMBASSY CARACAS SUGGESTS  
ONE TWIN OTTER MAY BE AVAILABLE FROM VENEZUELA (REF  
A). WE HAVE CONFIRMATION (REF B) THAT TWIN OTTER AVAILABLE  
FROM SURINAME. THIS PLANE ONLY AVAILABLE WITH FULL CREW.  
COST IS 65,000 SURINAMESE GUILDERS, OR \$36,100 AT EXCHANGE  
RATE OF 1.8 GUILDERS PER DOLLAR, FOR 125 HOURS FLIGHT TIME  
FOR ONE MONTE, PLUS FUEL, PLUS SAFETY INSPECTION TRIP. WE  
ESTIMATE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL 25 HOURS OF FLIGHT TIME BASED  
ON SIX HOURS OF FLIGHT PER DAY FOR 25 DAYS AT 170 GUILDERS PER  
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PAGE 23 GEORGE 04064 012053Z  
HOUR, OR \$2,400. ASSUMING 90 GALLONS FUEL PER HOUR FLIGHT  
TIME AT 70 CENTS PER GALLON, FUEL WILL COST \$63 PER HOUR, OR  
\$9,450. MANDATORY RETURN TRIP TO SURINAM FOR SAFETY INSPECTION  
AFTER 14 DAYS WILL COST 2,000 GUILDERS OR \$1,100. WITH  
\$6,000 TO COVER REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES OF CREW AND CONTINGENCIES  
TOTAL COST WILL BE \$55,000.

5. REQUEST APPROVAL AND ALLOTMENT \$55,000. IF LOWER COST  
STOL ALTERNATIVE IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE, PLEASE ADVISE. LEASE  
WILL BE SIGNED BETWEEN GAC AND FOREIGN FIRM.

6. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN CLEARED WITH USAID.

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GROSS MARGARET A  
76 GEORGETOWN 4067

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PAGE 21 GEORGE 04067 012140Z

ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-15 ISO-00 CA-01 SS-15 L-01 H-02 SSO-00  
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O 012101Z DEC 78  
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5302  
UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 4067  
E.O. 12065: N/A  
TAGS: CERS, GY (PEOPLE'S TEMPLE)  
SUBJECT: GUYANESE DEATH CERTIFICATES  
REF: STATE 303090

1) EMBASSY. UPON RECEIPT REFTEL, ADVISED MINISTRY OF  
HEALTH THAT TIME IS NOW OF THE ESSENCE IN PREPARING D/C'S.  
2) WHILE MOR PROMISED TO DO EVERYTHING IT CAN, USC  
SHOULD NOT EXPECT MIRACLES: THEY ARE NO MORE EQUIPPED TO  
CRANK OUT SCORES OF D/C'S AT A TIME THAN WE ARE.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CSC/NE  
REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
FOR USE FOR REF. DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
TO AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_  
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐  
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RELEASER DENIED ☐  
PA OR FOR EXEMPTIONS ☐

PRUE EMMA L  
78 GEORGETOWN 4091

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GEORGE 04091 0417237

ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-15 ISO-00 L-03 CA-01 H-02 SSO-02

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIAC IMMEDIATE 0325

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 4091

E.O. 12065: NA

TAGS GY, ORFP (KYAN, LEO), CASC

SUBJ:

REF STATE 305446

A LETTER WAS JUST RECEIVED BY AMBASSADOR BURKE FROM THE  
SOLICITOR GENERAL OF GUYANA. IT IS QUOTED IN FULL BELOW:

"HIS EXCELLENCY THE AMBASSADOR,

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

MAIN STREET, GEORGETOWN

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

THE JONESTOWN INCIDENT - REMOVAL OF BODIES

AS THE SOLICITOR GENERAL OF GUYANA INTERPRET CONFIRM THAT  
THE BODIES OF THE VICTIMS OF THE JONESTOWN INCIDENT WHICH  
OCCURRED IN GUYANA IN NOVEMBER 1 79, WERE LAWFULLY REMOVED  
FROM THE JURISDICTION OF GUYANA BY THE UNITED STATES AIR  
FORCE. YOURS FAITHFULLY,

J.C. GONSALVES-SABOLA, S....

SOLICITOR-GENERAL

4 TH DECEMBER, 1979."

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
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P. _____	
FA OF POL. RELATIONS _____	



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78 STATE 306446

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PAGE 01 STATE 306446

OR IN SCS-06

INFO OCT-21 ARA-15 ISO-00 L-03 CA-01 H-02 SSC-00  
DODE-00 NSC-00 /229 R

DRAFTED BY CA/SCS JO KANT

APPROVED BY CA/SCS AGISE

L/CA:RDALTON

ARA BUSHNELL (INFO)

S/S-O:SVALERGA

004450 040249Z /15

O 040238Z DFC 78 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN NIACT IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 306446

E.O. 115525: N/A

TAGS CDES

SUBJECT: PEOPLE'S TEMPLE

1. DEPARTMENT URGENTLY REPEAT URGENTLY REQUESTS. THAT THE EMBASSY OBTAIN AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA WHICH STATES "THE BODIES OF THE VICTIMS OF THE JONESTOWN INCIDENT WERE LAWFULLY REMOVED FROM THE JURISDICTION OF GUYANA BY THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE" OR WORDS TO THAT EFFECT.

2. THE DELAWARE STATE AUTHORITIES REQUIRE SUCH A STATEMENT IN ORDER TO BEGIN RELEASE OF BODIES TO NOK. SPEED IS OF THE ESSENCE. NOTIFICATION BY IMMEDIATE NIACT REQUESTED PRIOR TO DELIVERY OF OFFICIAL NOTE IN ORDER TO FACILITATE MOVEMENT OF BODIES. VANCE  
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY _____	DATE _____
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PASEK MICHAEL S  
76 GEORGETOWN 4107

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GEORGE 04107 051352Z

ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-21 ISO-20 L-03 SSO-20 SCS-05 CA-01 SS-15  
CODE-20 FEIE-20 JUST-20 SY-20 P-20 CIAP-20 INR-10  
NSAE-20 NSCF-20 INRF-20 STE-20 /050 W

-----010131 051352 /44

O 051328Z DEC 78

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0331

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 4107

E.O. 11652 NA

TACS: CGEN, CASC

SUBJ: RETENTION OF LOCAL COUNSEL

REF: STATE 2 6852

1. EMBASSY HAS RETAINED GORDEN SMITH GILLETTE, A GEORGETOWN SOLICITOR, AS LOCAL COUNSEL IN CONNECTION WITH QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE DISPOSITION OF PEOPLE'S TEMPLE PROPERTY IN GUYANA. GILLETTE HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE BAR FOR 27 YEARS. HE SERVED AS CHIEF PROSECUTOR AND NATIONAL OMBUDSMAN BEFORE RE-ENTERING PRIVATE PRACTICE IN 1978.

2. DCM AND L REPRESENTATIVE MET WITH GILLETTE DPC 4 AND DESCRIBED LEGAL QUESTION UPON WHICH ADVICE OF LOCAL COUNSEL WAS NEEDED. HE DOES NOT CHARGE AN HOBBLY RATE, AND WAS UNWILLING TO SPECULATE REGARDING HIS FEE BECAUSE OF THE COMPLICATED NATURE OF THE PROBLEM. HE HAS BEEN INFORMED OF THE EMBASSY MAXIMUM AUTHORIZATION OF \$1,000.00 U.S. BURKE

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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78 GEORGETOWN 4108

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GEORGE 24108 051353Z

ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-15 ISO-00 CA-01 L-03 H-02 HA-05 SS-02  
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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIAC IMMEDIATE 0332

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 4108

E.O. 12065 NA

TAGS: CARR, CY. (BEIKMAN, CHARLES) (PEOPLE'S TEMPLE)

SUBJ: W/2 ARRESTS CHARLES EDWARD BEIKMAN

REF: GEORGETOWN 4053

1. PRELIMINARY HEARING BEGAN YESTERDAY (DEC 4) BEFORE  
MAGISTRATE DESMOND CHRISTIAN TO DETERMINE IF ENOUGH EVIDENCE  
EXISTS TO COMMIT BEIKMAN TO THE HIGH COURT FOR TRIAL FOR  
THE MURDER OF LINDA SHARON HARRIS (AKA SHARON AMOS) AND  
HER THREE CHILDREN.

2. ONLY ONE WITNESS, A POLICE PHOTOGRAPHER, WAS CALLED  
YESTERDAY TO TESTIFY. MOST OF THE SESSION WAS DEVOTED TO  
HEARING ARGUMENTS ON TWO PROCEDURAL POINTS RAISED BY REY  
MCKAY, BEIKMAN'S SENIOR ATTORNEY. MCKAY ARGUED THAT THE  
COURTS SHOULD DIRECT THE PROSECUTION TO GIVE TO THE DEFENSE  
COPIES OF STATEMENTS OF WITNESSES TAKEN BY THE POLICE  
DURING THEIR INVESTIGATION OF THE ALLEGED MURDERS. MCKAY  
ALSO ARGUED THAT BEIKMAN'S RIGHT TO A FAIR TRIAL WAS IN  
JEOPARDY BECAUSE THE POLICE HAD DENIED DEFENSE COUNSEL THE  
OPPORTUNITY TO INTERVIEW POTENTIAL OFFENSE WITNESSES  
ESPECIALLY THOSE RESIDING AT LAMARCA GARDENS.

3. MAGISTRATE CHRISTIAN, AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE  
ARGUMENTS, REJECTED BOTH OF MCKAY'S CONTENTIONS. CHRISTIAN

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GEORGE 04108 051353Z

NOTED THAT SO FAR MCKAY HAD NAMED ONLY TWO POTENTIAL WITNESSES  
TO WHOM, IT WAS ALLEGED, DEFENSE HAD IMPROPERLY BEEN DENIED  
ACCESS BY THE POLICE. THESE TWO, CHRISTIAN CONTINUED,  
WERE THE SUBJECT OF A SEPARATE HABEAS CORPUS PROCEEDING  
CURRENTLY BEING HEARD IN THE HIGH COURT. CHRISTIAN NOTED  
THAT THE PROSECUTION HAD A DUTY TO SHOW TO THE DEFENSE  
STATEMENTS TAKEN FROM WITNESSES DURING THE INVESTIGATION.  
CHRISTIAN SAID HE WOULD NOT ORDER THE  
PROSECUTION TO TURN OVER THE STATEMENTS, BUT WOULD NOTE THAT,  
IF THE PROSECUTION DID NOT FULFILL THEIR OBLIGATION IN THIS  
REGARD, THE RESULT WOULD BE UPON THEIR HEADS.

4. THERE ARE TWO SEPARATE MOTIONS BEING HEARD IN THE COURTS  
IN THE BEIKMAN AFFAIR IN ADDITION TO THE PRELIMINARY HEARING  
REGARDING THE MURDER CHARGES. ONE IS THE HABEAS CORPUS  
MOTION, MENTIONED ABOVE. THE SECOND IS AN ORIGINATING WRIT,  
FILED BY MCKAY, WHICH SEEKS TO HAVE THE HIGH COURT DECLARE  
THAT HIS CLIENT'S CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS HAVE BEEN VIOLATED

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78 GEORGETOWN 4108

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BECAUSE DEFENSE HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN ACCESS BY THE POLICE TO  
POTENTIAL DEFENSE WITNESSES. EMBASSY DOES NOT PLAN TO SEND  
OBSERVER TO THESE TWO RELATED PROCEDURAL HEARINGS, BUT WILL  
SEND OFFICER TO HEAR FURTHER SESSIONS OF THE PRELIMINARY  
HEARING ON THE CRIMINAL CHARGES, WHICH RESUMES DEC 2.  
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72. GEORGETOWN 4189

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ACTION AFA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-02 ECS-06 CA-P1 SS-15 SSO-00 L-03 E-02  
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IN AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8333

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 3 GEORGETOWN 4109

E.O. 12065: NA

NAME: CASC. GY. (PEOPLE'S TEMPLE)

SUBJ: SUMMARY OF CONSULAR OFFICERS' VISIT TO JONESTOWN NOVEMBER 7, 1978

72

REF: HFWITT/FILICE TELECON 12/2/78

ON NOVEMBER 7, 1978 CONSUL ELLICE AND VICE CONSUL REECE VISITED THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE AGRICULTURAL PROJECT AT JONESTOWN. THEY FLEW TO PORT KAITUMA AIRSTRIP EARLY TUESDAY MORNING ON A PLANE THAT THE EMBASSY HAD CHARTERED FROM THE GUYANA SUGAR CORPORATION (GUSCO) IN ACCORDANCE WITH PAST PRACTICE. PASSAGE WAS OFFERED ON A SEASONAL BASIS TO PEOPLE'S TEMPLE MEMBERS WHO MIGHT WISH TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE TRIP.

THE EMBASSY OFFICERS MET THE PLANE AT OGLE AIRFIELD OUTSIDE OF GEORGETOWN AT ABOUT 8:00 A.M. IN THE MORNING. THERE THEY MET A VEHICLE FROM THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE THAT HAD BROUGHT JAMES JONES AND MARIA KATSARIS TO FLY WITH THEM. UPON THEIR ARRIVAL AT ROYAL LAYTHAM AIRSTRIP THEY WERE MET BY TWO VEHICLES: A LAND ROVER, WHICH HAD BEEN SUPPLIED BY PRE-ARRANGEMENT FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA AND A DUMP TRUCK BELONGING TO THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE. THE EMBASSY OFFICERS AND THE PILOT OF THE GUYANCO PLANE BOARDED THE LAND ROVER AND PAID A CURTESY CALL ON MR. PERBERT THOMAS, THE PORT LAYTHAM REGIONAL OFFICER. THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE DUMP TRUCK TOOK MR. JONES AND MISS KATSARIS TO THE FRONT GATE OF THE PROJECT AND

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WAITED THERE. AFTER THE COURTESY CALL, WHICH LASTED LESS THAN 10 MINUTES, THE LAND ROVER BROUGHT THE EMBASSY OFFICERS AND THE PILOT TO THE FRONT GATE, WHERE THEY ALSO BOARDED THE DUMP TRUCK. BECAUSE OF THE CONDITION OF THE ROAD LEADING INTO THE PROJECT FROM THE FRONT GATE, ONLY THIS LARGE TRUCK COULD GET IN.

CONSUL ELLICE AND VICE CONSUL REECE WERE GIVEN A GUIDED TOUR OF JONESTOWN BY SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE. THE GUIDES INCLUDED: AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER, MARCELINE (THE WIFE OF REV. JAMES CONEY), EUGENE CHAIKIN, HARRIET TROPE, DEBBIE TOUCHETTE, SHARON MOSCOW, MICHAEL PICKES AND MARIA KATSARIS. ONE GUIDE, WHOSE NAME THE OFFICERS DO NOT RECALL, WAS INTRODUCED TO THEM AS THE PROJECT'S AGRICULTURAL EXPERT. THE TOUR AT JONESTOWN INCLUDED VISITS TO THE NURSERY, THE COMMUNICATIONS SHACK (CONTAINING THE SHORT WAVE RADIOS JONESTOWN USED TO COMMUNICATED WITH SAN FRANCISCO AND GEORGETOWN), THE CAGE CONTAINING THEIR PET MONKEY, THE MEDICAL CLINIC, THE COM-

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MISSARY, THE METAL-WORKING SHOP, THE COOKING AREA, THE HERBAL KITCHEN, AND THE PHARMACY. JONESTOWN, IT WAS EXPLAINED, WAS A CASELESS COMMUNITY, AND THE COMMISSARY DISPENSED GOOD TO THE RESIDENTS ON THEIR SIGNATURES. AT ABOUT 11:00 A.M., AFTER ALMOST TWO HOURS OF TOURING, MR. ELLICE BEGGED OFF ANY FURTHER SIGHTSEEING UNTIL THE OFFICERS COULD COMPLETED THEIR WORK. THE EMBASSY OFFICERS RETURNED TO THE PAVILLION WHERE THEY WERE TO HAVE LUNCH AND BEGAN INTERVIEWING SOME OF THEIR CASES. A FEW MEMBERS CAME TO SEE THEM IN ORDER TO HAVE STATEMENTS NOTARIZED. A DESCRIPTION OF WHO INTERVIEWED WHOM AND THE RESULTS OF THESE INTERVIEWS WILL BE APPENDED TO THE END OF THIS SUMMARY.

MR. ELLICE AND MR. REECE INTERVIEWED THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE MEMBERS AT THE SOUTH-EAST CORNER OF THE PAVILLION, WELL AWAY FROM ANY THIRD PERSONS, IN ORDER TO ASSURE PRIVACY. APPROXIMATELY 3/4 OF THE WAY THROUGH THE INTERVIEWS THEY BROKE OFF FOR LUNCH, WHICH WAS SERVED AT A LARGE SQUARE TABLE UNDER THE PAVILLION; MR. REECE

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AND MR. ELLICE WERE SEATED AT OPPOSITE CORNERS OF THIS TABLE. MR. ELLICE'S IMMEDIATE NEIGHBOURSDURING LUNCHWAS; REV. JAMES S JONES, HIS WIFE MARCELINE JONES, SHARON AMOS, HARRIET TROPP AND MARIA KATSARIS. SOME OF THE MEMBERS NEAR MR. REECE WERE: MICEAEL PROKES, DEBBIE TOUCHETTE, JOHNNY JONES AKA JOHNNY BROWN, AND THE GUYSUCO PILOT. AS LUNCH WAS SERVED, "JONESTOWN EXPRESS", A MUSICAL GROUP, PLAYED "AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL" AND ALL THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE MEMBERS PRESENT STOOD, PALCED THEIR HAND OVER THEIR HEARTS, AND SANG ALONG. REV. JONES APPEARED FOR THE FIRST TIME JUST AS LUNCH WAS BEING SERVED WITH PEOPLE ON EACH ARM WHO APPEARED TO BE STEADYING HIM. THE CONSULAR OFFICERS WERE TOLD THAT JAMES JONES HAD RECENTLY SUFFERED A HEARTATTACK AND HAD A FEVER OF 105 DEGREES. HE WAS WEARING

A WHITE GAUZE MASK OVER HIS FACE. BOTH OF THE OFFICERS NOTED DURING THEIR VARIOUS CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER LUNCH THAT REV. JONES' SPEECH WAS MARKEDLY SLURRED. DURING HIS LUNCHTIME CONVERSATION WITH MR. ELLICE, REV. JONES TRIED AT ONE POINT TO SPELL A WORD THAT HE DID NOT WANT A NEARBY CHILD TO HEAR. HE WAS UNABLE TO SPELL THE WORD CORRECTLY AND GAVE UP IN APPARENT CONFUSION. BOTH OFFICERS NOTED THAT NEITHER MR. JONES' FOREHEAD NOR PALM WAS PERSPIRING AND MENTIONED TO EACH OTHER LATER THAT HE NOT APPEAR TO HAVE THE CLAIMED FEVER. AFTER LUNCH REV. JONES WAS HELPED AWAY FROM THE AREA BY TWO ATTENDANTS AND THE CONSULAR OFFICERS CONTINUED THEIR INTERVIEWS. DURING LUNCH, THE OFFICERS MET JOHN VICTOR STOEN, WHO WAS BROUGHT TO THE TABLE ESPECIALLY FOR THIS PURPOSE. BY THE TIME THE INTERVIEWS WERE FINISHED IT WAS MID-AFTERNOON, AND, AS THE PILOT WAS ANXIOUS TO TAKE OFF SOON DUE TO AN APPROACHING THUNDERSTORM, THE OFFICERS WENT BY DUMP TRUCK FROM JONESTOWN BACK TO THE FORT LAITUKA AIRSTRIP. THEY THEREFORE DID NOT HAVE TIME TO VISIT THE AREA OF THE COMPOUND HOUSING THE RESIDENTIAL COTTAGES, OR THE PIGGERY/LIVESTOCK AREA; THEY DID, HOWEVER, FLY OVER THESE AREAS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THEIR DEPARTURE FROM

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PAGE MICHAEL S  
76 GEORGETOWN 4169

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PORT KAITUMA. SHARON AMOS AND JIM JONES, JR. RETURNED WITH THE  
OFFICER FROM PORT KAITUMA TO OGLE AIRPORT. AT NO TIME DID THE  
OFFICERS ON NOVEMBER 7 SEE ANY BARBED WIRE, ANY GUARDS, ARMED OR  
OTHERWISE, OR ANY OTHER PHYSICAL SIGN THAT PEOPLE WERE BEING HELD

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AT JONESTOWN AGAINST THEIR WILL. NOR DID ANY OF THE CONVERSATIONS  
BY THE CONSULAR OFFICERS WITH PEOPLE'S TEMPLE MEMBERS AT JONESTOWN  
REVEAL ANY INDICATION THAT THE INHABITANTS OF JONESTOWN WERE RE-  
CEIVING ANYTHING LESS THAN NORMAL GUYANESE STANDARDS OF FOOD, CLOTH-  
ING, SHELTER, AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE.

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PASIK MICHAEL S  
79 GEORGETOWN 4109

29/11/79 111629 PRINTER: LC

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 24109 02 OF 03 251553Z

ACTION APA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-06 CA-01 SS-15 SSO-00 L-03 H-02

HA-05 /048 W

-----018785 251703Z /42

O 251345Z DEC 79

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8334

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 3 GEORGETOWN 4109

MR. ELLICE AND MR. REECE SHARED THE SAME GENERAL IMPRESSIONS AS FOLLOWS: THE MEMBERS THEY MET APPEARED TO BE IN GOOD HEALTH, MENTALLY ALERT (CONSIDERING THE ADVANCED AGE OF SOME OF THEM), AND GENERALLY HAPPY TO BE AT JONESTOWN. THEY ALL SEEMED TO BE ABSORBED IN THEIR VARIOUS DUTIES SUCH AS SHOP WORK, TEACHING OR GARDENING. NO ONE INDICATED ANY DESIRE TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES. SUMMARIES FOLLOW ON THE WELFARE AND WHEREABOUTS INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED BY THE CONSULAR OFFICERS.

CASE NO. 1 - (MR. REECE)

LORETTA CHAVIS: MS. CHAVIS SAID SHE HAD WRITTEN HER MOTHER SEVERAL MONTHS AGO AND HAD NOT RECENTLY RECEIVED A REPLY. SHE THEREFORE DISCOUNTED THE ASSERTION OF HER MOTHER (IN THE LATTER'S LETTER TO THE EMBASSY OF 8/30/79) SAYING THAT SHE WAS SICK. MR. REECE ADVISED MS. CHAVIS OF HER MOTHER'S INTEREST IN HER AND ASKED LORETTA TO WRITE HER AGAIN SOON.

CASE NO. 2 - (MR. REECE)

MARSHALL FARRIS: MR. REECE ADVISED MR. FARRIS THAT HIS SISTER WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A RECENT PICTURE OF HIM. HE SAID THAT HE HAD RECENTLY SENT A PHOTOGRAPH OF HIMSELF TO HIS MOTHER. SEEING THAT MR. FARRIS WAS BORN IN 1907, MR. REECE ASKED HIM IF HIS MOTHER WAS STILL LIVING AND HE REPLIED YES. HE SAID HE THOUGHT HIS MOTHER MAY HAVE SHOWN THE PICTURE TO HIS SISTER. MR. REECE ADVISED HIM TO SEND A PICTURE OF HIMSELF TO HIS SISTER ANYWAY. IN VIEW OF GEORGETOWN TELEGRAM 2219 OF 1979 NO COMMUNICATION WAS SENT BY THE EMBASSY TO MR. FARRIS.

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SISTER AFTER THE NOVEMBER 7 MEETING.

CASE NO. 3 - (MR. REECE)

RHONDA HUI ATA RHONDA FORTSON: WE HAD RECEIVED A LETTER FROM MS. FORTSON'S MOTHER-IN-LAW INDICATING CONCERN FOR THE WELFARE OF MS. FORTSON AND HER HUSBAND, HUI FORTSON. THE RESULTS OF MR. REECE'S CONVERSATION WITH MS. FORTSON ARE CONTAINED IN A MEMO IN THE FORTSON'S FILE IN THE EMBASSY DATED NOVEMBER 8, 1978. IN SUMMARY, THE MEMO SAYS THAT RHONDA FORTSON DID NOT HAVE HER PASSPORT WITH HER SO

THAT POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION COULD NOT BE MADE. MS. FORTSON SAID THAT HER HUSBAND WAS IN THE UNITED STATES, AND THAT SHE HAD RECEIVED A LETTER DIRECTLY FROM HER MOTHER-IN-LAW SINCE HER MOTHER-IN-LAW'S WELFARE INQUIRY WAS SENT TO US. MS. FORTSON PROMISED TO WRITE HER MOTHER-IN-LAW SOON. MS. FORTSON REFUSED TO SIGN THE

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PAGE

4



PASSEY MICHAEL S  
7E GEORGETOWN 4100

29/11/78 111610 PRINTER: LC

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PRIVACY ACT RELEASE: THEREFORE,  
THE EMBASSY DID NOT SEND A COMMUNICATION TO ANY  
OF MS. FORTSON'S RELATIVES AFTER THE NOVEMBER 7 INTERVIEW.

CASE NO. 4 - (MR. REECE)

MR. & MRS. CLAUDE GOODSPEED: THE RESULT OF MR. REECE'S INTERVIEW  
WITH THE GOODSPEEDS ARE CONTAINED IN A LETTER TO MR. & MRS. MELVIN  
HARRIS DATED NOVEMBER 8, 1978 A COPY OF WHICH WE WILL FURNISH IF THE  
DEPARTMENT SO DESIRED. THE GOODSPEEDS INFORMED MR. REECE THAT THEY  
ENJOYED THEIR RETIREMENT IN JONESTOWN. THEY WENT FISHING AND WERE  
INVOLVED IN OTHER ACTIVITIES. THE GOODSPEEDS ALSO REMARKED THAT THE  
HARRIS' WERE NEVER PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THEIR WELFARE BEFORE  
THE GOODSPEEDS WENT TO JONESTOWN.

CASE NO. 5 - (MR. REECE)

MRS. HARPER: MS. HARPER WAS THE SUBJECT OF AN INQUIRY DURING  
JUNE 1978 BY HER SON, MR. CHARLES WHITE. MS. HARPER SAID SHE

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PAGE 07 GEORGE 24100 P2 OF 23 051553Z

RECEIVED A LETTER FROM MR. WHITE DATED MARCH 23, 1978 IN EITHER  
MAY OR JUNE OF THIS YEAR. MS. HARPER SAID SHE ANSWERED THE LETTER  
IN JUNE AND WROTE AGAIN TO HER SON DURING THE WEEK PRIOR TO  
NOVEMBER 7, 1978. THE EMBASSY SENT A DIRECT RELAY TELEGRAM TO MR.  
WHITE ON NOVEMBER 9, 1978 INFORMING HIM THAT HIS MOTHER APPEARED  
TO BE FINE.

CASE NO. 6 - (MR. ELICE)

LIANE HARRIS: EMBASSY OFFICERS WHILE AT JONESTOWN ON NOVEMBER 7,  
1978 WERE INFORMED BY HARRIS' MOTHER, SHARON AMOS AKA SHARON HARRIS,  
THAT LIANE WAS NOT IN JONESTOWN AT THAT TIME. HOWEVER, SHARON AMOS  
SAID THAT LIANE WOULD COME TO GEORGETOWN DURING THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER  
12, 1978 AND WOULD THEN SEE A CONSULAR OFFICER REGARDING THE WELFARE  
AND WHEREABOUTS INQUIRY FROM SHERWIN HARRIS, LIANE'S FATHER.

CASE NO. 7 - (MR. ELICE)

BRIAN BOUCQUET: BRIAN'S MOTHER HAD TRANSMITTED A LETTER FOR BRIAN  
TO US THROUGH CONGRESSMAN MCLOSKEY'S OFFICE. MR. ELICE GAVE BRIAN  
THIS LETTER AND HAD BRIAN OPEN AND READ IT IN HIS PRESENCE. BRIAN  
HAD NO PARTICULAR REACTION TO THE LETTER BUT INDICATED THAT HE WAS  
WELL AND HAPPY AT JONESTOWN AND WOULD SOON CORRESPOND WITH HIS  
MOTHER. BRIAN WAS A MEMBER OF THE JONESTOWN EXPRESS, PLAYING THE  
SAXOPHONE.

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PAGE 5

PAGE 5  
78 GEORGETOWN 4109

09/11/78 111610 PRINTED: 10

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PAGE 21 GEORGE 24109 03 OF 03 051545Z

ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-21 ISO-00 SCS-00 CA-01 SS-15 SSO-22 E-02 L-03  
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0 051345Z DEC 78

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACI IMMEDIATE 0335

UNCLAS SECTION 3 OF 3 GEORGETOWN 4109

CASE NO. 8 - (MR. ELLICE)

DONALD FIELDS: DONALD'S MOTHER, MS. MAE FIELDS, HAD ASKED THE DEPARTMENT TO ASCERTAIN THE CONDITION OF HER SON. MR. ELLICE SPOKE TO MR. FIELDS, WHO ASKED HIM TO ASSURE HIS MOTHER THAT HE WAS WELL AND HAPPY. THIS WAS DONE BY DIRECT RELAY TELEGRAM TWO DAYS LATER. MR. FIELDS WORKED IN THE PROJECT'S PHARMACY.

CASE NO. 9 - MR. ELLICE)

BETTY GILL: MS. GILL HAD AN OUTSTANDING SOCIAL SECURITY CLAIM. THE JONESTOWN COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL HAD FAILED TO COMPLETE THE SOCIAL SECURITY FORMS PROPERLY AND MR. ELLICE GAVE MS. GILL ANOTHER COPY OF THE FORM WITH MORE DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS.

CASE NO. 10 - MR. ELLICE)

TINA GRIMM: THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN CONTACTED BY THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN JOHN BURTON AND REQUESTED TO RELAY A LETTER TO MS. GRIMM FROM HER FIANCE IN CALIFORNIA. AT MR. ELLICE'S REQUEST, MS. GRIMM OPENED AND READ THE LETTER IN HIS PRESENCE. SHE INDICATED THAT SHE HAD NO PLANS TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES, THAT SHE NO LONGER CONSIDERED HERSELF ENGAGED TO HER FORMER FIANCE, AND THAT SHE HAD MARRIED A FELLOW JONESTOWN RESIDENT AND WAS EXPECTING A CHILD. THE CONSUL OFFERED TO AMEND HER PASSPORT AND ASKED TO SEE HER MARRIAGE LICENSE. MS. GRIMM THEN INDICATED THAT SHE WAS NOT, IN FACT, MARRIED, AND WOULD AMEND HER PASSPORT IN THE FUTURE IF SHE DID MARRY THE FATHER OF THE EXPECTED CHILD. THE CONSUL SENT A LETTER TO THE OFFICE OF THE CONGRESSMAN REPORT-

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PAGE 02 GEORGE 24109 03 OF 03 051545Z

ING DELIVERY OF THE LETTER.

CASE NO. 11 - (MR. ELLICE)

LARRY LAYTON: MR. LAYTON (AND HIS WIFE) ASKED TO SPEAK TO THE CONSUL ABOUT THE RECENT DEATH OF LARRY'S MOTHER, LISA LAYTON. IT WAS AGREED THAT MR. LAYTON WOULD INFORM ALL OF HIS RELATIVES ABOUT THE DEATH AND WOULD CONTACT THE EMBASSY SHORTLY TO ASSIST IN COMPLETING THE IS-192.

CASE NO. 12 - (MR. ELLICE)

MARY ROGERS: THE CONSUL SPOKE TO MS. ROGERS AS THE RESULT OF A LETTER HE HAD RECEIVED FROM HER DAUGHTER, SAMANTHA TUCKER. MS. ROGERS INDICATED THAT SHE WAS WELL AND ENJOYED HER LIFE AT JONESTOWN. A LETTER TO THAT EFFECT WAS SENT TO MR. TUCKER THE FOLLOWING DAY.

CASE NO. 13 - (MR. ELLICE)

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6

PASPA MICHAEL S  
75 GEORGETOWN 4109

09/11/79 111611 PRINTER: LC

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RONNIE SIMON: THE CONSUL SPOKE TO MS. SIMON AS THE RESULT OF A WELFARE INQUIRY FROM HER STEP-MOTHER, MRS. WAYNE STUDY. THE CONSUL SENT A LETTER THE NEXT DAY TO MRS. WAYNE STUDY REVIEWING THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW.

CASE NO. 14 - (MR. ELLICE)

KENNARD WILKITE: THE CONSUL SPOKE TO THE PARENTS OF THE INFANT KENNARD WILKITE IN CONNECTION WITH AN OUTSTANDING PASSPORT APPLICATION. HE ASSISTED THEM BY MAKING CLEAR THE PHOTOGRAPH REQUIREMENT, AND THEY INDICATED THAT AS SOON AS PROPER PHOTOGRAPHS WERE AVAILABLE THEY WOULD PROCEED WITH THE APPLICATION.

CASE NO. 15 - (MR. ELLICE)

EARL MCKNIGHT: MR. MCKNIGHT WAS THE SUBJECT OF A REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION. BOTH

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PAGE 05 GEORGE 44109 23 OF 03 051545Z

CONSULAR OFFICERS VISITED MR. MCKNIGHT AT HIS QUARTERS BECAUSE OF HIS ADVANCED AGE (83). HE IDENTIFIED HIMSELF, WHICH IN AID OF ITSELF CLARED UP THE PROBLEM. SINCE THIS WAS THE LAST OUTSTANDING CASE, THE OFFICERS DEPARTED JONESTOWN.

END

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PASEK MICHAEL S  
78 GEORGETOWN 4111

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 04111 051 472

ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-21 ARA-15 ISO-00 CA-01 R-02 SS-15 PPTT-00

SY-05 SYT-00 SSO-00 /045 W

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TC SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0341

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 04111

E.O. 11652 NA

TAGS: CIES, GY(PEOPLE'S TEMPLE), (HARRIS, LINDA SHARON) PARKS, PATRICIA

SUBJ: DATA ON "SHARON AMOS" (AMOS, MARTIN LAURENCE) (AMOS, WAYBORN CHRISTA)

REF: A) GEORGETOWN 38 0

B) GEORGETOWN 3879

C) GEORGETOWN 3875

D) STATE 293789

EMBASSY HAS JUST RECEIVED DEATH CERTIFICATES FOR LINDA SHARON HARRIS AND HER THREE CHILDREN, MARTIN LAURENCE AMOS, WAYBORN CHRISTA AMOS, AND LIAN HARRIS. THE EMBASSY HAS ALSO JUST RECEIVED THE DEATH CERTIFICATE FOR PATRICIA PARKS, SUBJECT OF GEORGETOWN 3870, GEORGETOWN 37 AND STATE 2 3700. THE FIVE DEATH CERTIFICATES HAVE BEEN PUT IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE, ALLAN GIST AND WILL BE HAND CARRIED TO THE DEPARTMENT BY MS. MARY DELL HUMPHREY, AN EMPLOYEE OF THE FBI, TRAVELLING TO WASHINGTON TOMORROW DECEMBER 6, 1975. THE EMBASSY HAS JUST RECOVERED THE PASSPORTS OF THE 3 AMOS CHILDREN: MARTIN LAURENCE AMOS - DPOB: 4/1 /66; CALIFORNIA, PASSPORT NUMBER F018145 ISSUED 1/6/75; SPO, WAYBORN CHRISTA AMOS - DPOB 3/7/67; CALIFORNIA, PASSPORT NUMBER F015338 ISSUED 1/2/75 SPO, LIAN HARRIS - DPOB: 11/27/56; CALIFORNIA, PASSPORT

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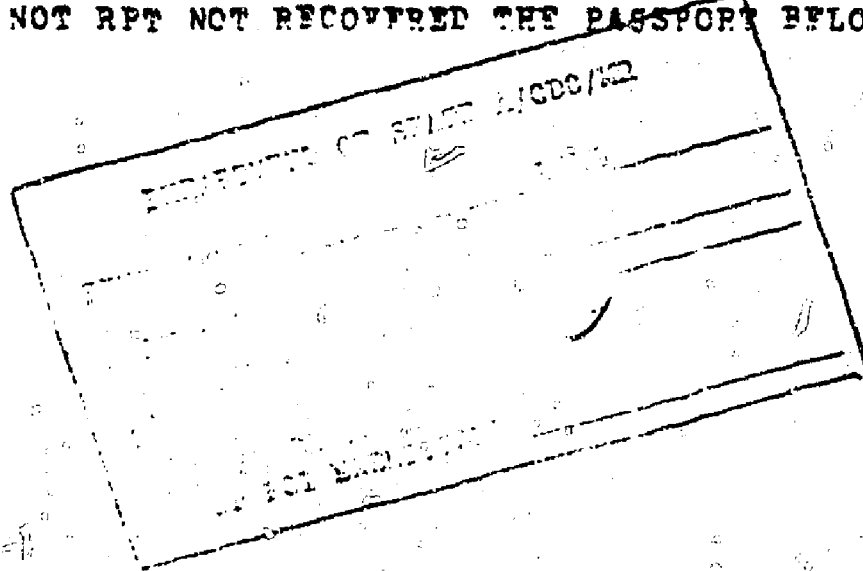
PAGE 02 GEORGE 04111 051472

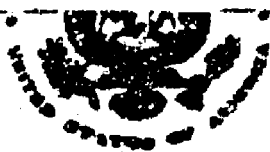
NUMBER F015338 ISSUED 1/2/75 SPO.

THE EMBASSY HAS NOT YET RECOVERED THE PASSPORT BELONGING TO PATRICIA PARKS.

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Department of State

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 02637 292009Z  
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 MSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01  
COME-00 AGRE-00 /069 W

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P R 291940Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3949  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON  
AMEMBASSY NASSAU  
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY _____	DATE _____
RDS <input type="checkbox"/> OF INCIDENT. DATE _____	
TS AMER. _____	
EXCERPT <input type="checkbox"/> (S) _____	
DECLASSIFICATION <input type="checkbox"/> _____	
RELEASE <input type="checkbox"/> _____	
PA or FOI <input type="checkbox"/> _____	

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 2637

STATE PASS TO USIA/ILA

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, SCPN, GY, US  
SUBJECT: DYMALLY VISIT TO GUYANA

1. ST. GUY. DYMALLY DURING HIS VISIT TO GUYANA HELD A SHORT PRESS CONFERENCE ON DEC. 28, REPORTED IN DAILY CHRONICLE ON DEC. 29 DYMALLY ANNOUNCED TO PRESS THAT HE PLANS TO URGE DEPARTMENT TO WORK TOWARDS GOOD RELATIONS WITH CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES. ARTICLE REPORTED THAT DYMALLY INTENDS TO MEET WITH THE QUOTE STATE DEPARTMENT CARIBBEAN DESK UNQUOTE SOMETIME AFTER CARTER INAUGURATION.

2. DYMALLY WAS ALSO QUOTED AS SAYING THERE WAS BASIC GOODWILL IN THE CARIBBEAN TOWARD U.S. AND THE QUESTION IS WHETHER THE U.S. WANTS TO PURSUE A POLICY REFLECTING THIS GOODWILL. DYMALLY CONTINUED THAT THERE WAS GREAT MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE  
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PAGE 02 GEORGE 02637 292009Z

CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES AND THE U.S. CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES FEAR

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DESTABILIZATION IN THIS REGION AND WHAT WAS NOW NEEDED WAS THE USHERING IN OF A NEW ERA OF UNDERSTANDING. DYMALLY STATED THAT HE HAD MET AIDES OF PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER BEFORE THE NOVEMBER ELECTIONS AND WAS GIVEN ASSURANCES THAT THE U.S. UNDER A CARTER ADMINISTRATION WOULD NOT INTERFERE IN THE DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF OTHER NATIONS.

3. REMAINDER OF ARTICLE DEALT WITH DYMALLY'S BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF TRIP WHICH WAS TO VISIT PEOPLE'S TEMPLE AGRICULTURAL MISSION AT PORT KAITUMA. DYMALLY IS SCHEDULED TO MEET TODAY WITH PRIME MINISTER AND ATTEND A LUNCHEON HOSTED BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER.

4. CHARGE MET WITH DYMALLY FOR SHORT PERIOD UPON HIS ARRIVAL IN GEORGETOWN DEC 27 AND AGAIN FOR LONGER PERIOD ON DEC 28. BISHOP JIM JONES, LEADER OF PEOPLE'S TEMPLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, WAS ALSO PRESENT AT SECOND MEETING WHEN CHARGE SUMMARIZED PRESENT STATE OF U.S.-GOG RELATIONS. CHARGE EMPHASIZED TO BOTH DYMALLY AND JONES USG ANGER OVER BURNHAM'S OCT 17 SPEECH WHEN BURNHAM IMPLIED U.S. COMPLICITY IN CUBANA AIRLINE CRASH DESPITE REPEATED ASSURANCES OF U.S. NON-INVOLVEMENT FROM HIGHEST LEVEL OF USG. CHARGE CONTINUED THAT RECENT HARSH GOG RHETORIC IN LOCAL PRESS AND OTHER FORA CHARGING U.S. WITH DESTABILIZATION OF GUYANA AND CHARACTERIZING U.S. AS ENEMY HAS FURTHER HAMPERED NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS. JONES AND DYMALLY BOTH STATED THAT THEY HAD MET ON DEC. 28 WITH FOMIN WILLS WHO EXPRESSED FEAR THAT USG WOULD DESTABILIZE GUYANA LIKE WE DID CHILE. JONES ALSO INDICATED THAT THERE WAS REAL FEAR AMONG GOG THAT CIA WAS SUPRANATIONAL AGENCY ANSWERABLE TO NO ONE, WHO WERE ACTING AGAINST GUYANA UNBENIGNANT TO OTHER AGENCIES OF USG. CHARGE CATEGORICALLY DENIED ANY AGENCY OF USG INCLUDING CIA WERE ACTING AGAINST GUYANA. CHARGE INDICATED THAT GUYANESE SIMPLY REFUSE TO BELIEVE OUR DENIALS EVEN THOUGH THEY HAVE NO EVIDENCE ON WHICH TO BASE THESE FEARS AND ACCUSATIONS. ON THE CONTRARY, GOG RECENTLY HAS GONE OUT OF ITS WAY TO BE ABRASIVE IN ITS RELATIONS WITH U.S. CHARGE THEN STATED PROBLEM IS WHY IS GOG SEEMINGLY SO HOSTILE ESPECIALLY SINCE THERE DOES APPEAR TO BE GENUINE REGARD FOR AND GOODWILL TOWARD U.S. BY AVERAGE GUYANESE.

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PAGE 03            GEORGE 02637   292009Z

FOR AND GOODWILL TOWARD U.S. BY AVERAGE GUYANESE.

5. DURING COURSE OF CONVERSATION JONES APPEARED TO QUESTION CREDIBILITY OF USG ESPECIALLY CONCERNING CIA ACTIVITIES AND OUR SUPPORT FOR REGIMES THAT SEVERELY RESTRICT HUMAN RIGHTS. CHARGE REPLIED UNFORTUNATELY MOST COUNTRIES IN WORLD TODAY RESTRICT AND VIOLATE HUMAN RIGHTS. BUT THAT DEPARTMENT HAS TAKEN LEAD IN

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IDENTIFYING PROBLEM AND PRESSING FOR AMELIORATION OF CONDITIONS WHERE POSSIBLE. JONES ALSO MENTIONED HE HAD MET WITH MRS. CARTER AND VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT MONDALE EARLIER WHO ASSURED HIM CARTER ADMINISTRATION WOULD NOT INTERFERE IN DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF GUYANA. JONES INTENDS TO PASS THIS MESSAGE TO BURNHAM TODAY (DEC 29) WHEN HE SEES HIM.]

6. DYMALLY STATED HE WILL CONTACT COUNTRY DIRECTOR HEAVNER SOMETIME AFTER JANUARY 20 TO DISCUSS THE RESULTS OF HIS VISIT TO EASTERN CARIBBEAN.  
MCCOY

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GEORGE 23221 151209Z

INFO OCT-01 APA-14 ISO-02 L-23. SCS-26 0625 \*  
----- 054502 100220Z 715

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASEDC 585E

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 3221

E.O. 11652: 4/4

TAGS: OPEN. AINE

SUBJECT: FOIA REQUESTS

REF: STATE 287946

1. POST HAS FILE OF LETTERS, MEMORANDA AND TELEGRAMS RELATING TO PEOPLE'S TEMPLE IN GUYANA. SOME OF THIS MATERIAL INCLUDES REFERENCES TO REV. JAMES W. JONES AND OTHER OFFICERS AND MEMBERS ASSOCIATED WITH THE GROUP. POST WILL FORWARD PERTINENT DOCUMENTS WITH APPROPRIATE COMMENTS WHEN GM MENTIONED PARA ONE REFTEL RECEIVED.

2. BOTH AAA CAR AND SCS ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE ORGANIZATION.

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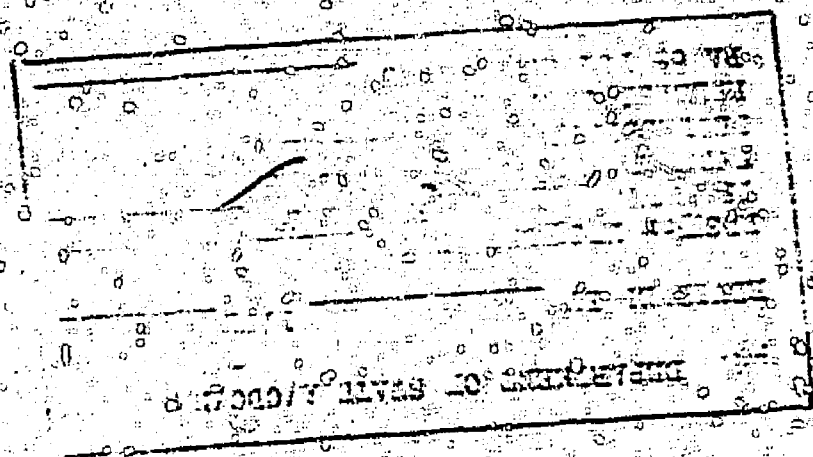
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/LR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**PAGE**





1. The hull is the main body of the ship, which provides the structural strength and buoyancy. It is divided into various compartments to protect the ship from damage and flooding. The hull is also responsible for the ship's stability and maneuverability.

2. The hull is made of steel or aluminum, which are strong and durable materials. The hull is also painted with a special paint to protect it from corrosion and rust.

3. The hull is also responsible for the ship's speed and fuel efficiency. The hull is designed to reduce drag and resistance, which allows the ship to move through the water more easily.

4. The hull is also responsible for the ship's safety. The hull is designed to withstand collisions and other hazards. The hull is also equipped with various safety features, such as lifeboats and fire extinguishers.

5. The hull is also responsible for the ship's appearance. The hull is painted in various colors and designs to make the ship look attractive and professional.

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ORIGIN: LRA-15

1. NAME: [REDACTED]  
 2. ADDRESS: [REDACTED]  
 3. CITY: [REDACTED]  
 4. STATE: [REDACTED]  
 5. ZIP: [REDACTED]  
 6. PHONE: [REDACTED]  
 7. FAX: [REDACTED]  
 8. E-MAIL: [REDACTED]  
 9. OCCUPATION: [REDACTED]  
 10. EDUCATION: [REDACTED]  
 11. MARITAL STATUS: [REDACTED]  
 12. NUMBER OF CHILDREN: [REDACTED]  
 13. DATE OF BIRTH: [REDACTED]  
 14. DATE OF DEATH: [REDACTED]  
 15. DATE OF INTERVIEW: [REDACTED]  
 16. DATE OF REPORT: [REDACTED]  
 17. DATE OF REVIEW: [REDACTED]  
 18. DATE OF APPROVAL: [REDACTED]  
 19. DATE OF CLOSURE: [REDACTED]  
 20. DATE OF RE-OPENING: [REDACTED]

735120 221221E /11

1. What is the purpose of the study?  
 2. What are the research objectives?  
 3. What is the research methodology?  
 4. What are the results of the study?  
 5. What are the conclusions of the study?  
 6. What are the limitations of the study?  
 7. What are the implications of the study?  
 8. What are the future research directions?  
 9. What are the references of the study?  
 10. What are the acknowledgments of the study?

LOCATION: CHOCOMA, SOUTHWEST OF JONESTOWN.

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of subscribers. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them.

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CONFIDENTIAL

STATE 233520

209-12 21-13 22A-11 150-92 211-03 7-91  
1108-02 142-12 2A-01 1007-02 200-92  
1108-02 142-12 2A-01 1007-02 200-92  
1108-02 142-12 2A-01 1007-02 200-92

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/C/2/12

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_

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1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which are arranged in two columns. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are written in a more formal, printed style. The list includes names such as "John Doe", "Jane Smith", and "Robert Johnson", along with their respective addresses in various cities and states.

-122102 221311Z-164

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
 RECORDS SECTION  
 P. 05 121 111111

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**PAGE**



U.S. AIR FORCE  
OFFICE OF THE  
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

CONFIDENTIAL

MOBILITIES AND FACILITATE EVACUATION ACTIVITIES. THE  
GOVERNMENT HAS REQUESTED THE LOAN OF TWO  
OF ITS C-130 AIRCRAFT. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TEMPLE  
CHIEF HAS OFFERED GUATEMALA'S DOMESTIC AIR TRANSPORT  
COMPANY, WHICH IS CRITICAL FOR THE SUPPLY OF MANY ISOLATED  
COMMUNITIES. NMCC HAS NO OFFERS BUT IS LOOKING  
FOR A WAY OF RESPONDING TO THIS REQUEST.  
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TEMPLE HAS ADVISED THAT ATTORNEYS HAVE BEEN  
CONTACTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA AND THE FOUR  
DURING THE ATTACK AT PORT KAITUMA AND THAT

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TEMPLE HAS ADVISED THAT ATTORNEYS HAVE BEEN  
CONTACTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA AND THE FOUR  
DURING THE ATTACK AT PORT KAITUMA AND THAT







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79 STATE 294467

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DATE 21 OCT 81 STATE 294467

1:50 OCT 81 ARA-15 ISO-60 PA-02 PER-25 (ISO) R

DRAFTED BY CWO:JGR/MSITE  
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE: JUNE 81

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IS 210522Z NOV 79

TO AMEMBASSY WASHINGTON

FROM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

UNCLAS STATE 294467

THOMAS THEODORE BRYANT FOR AMBASSADOR EUSTACE

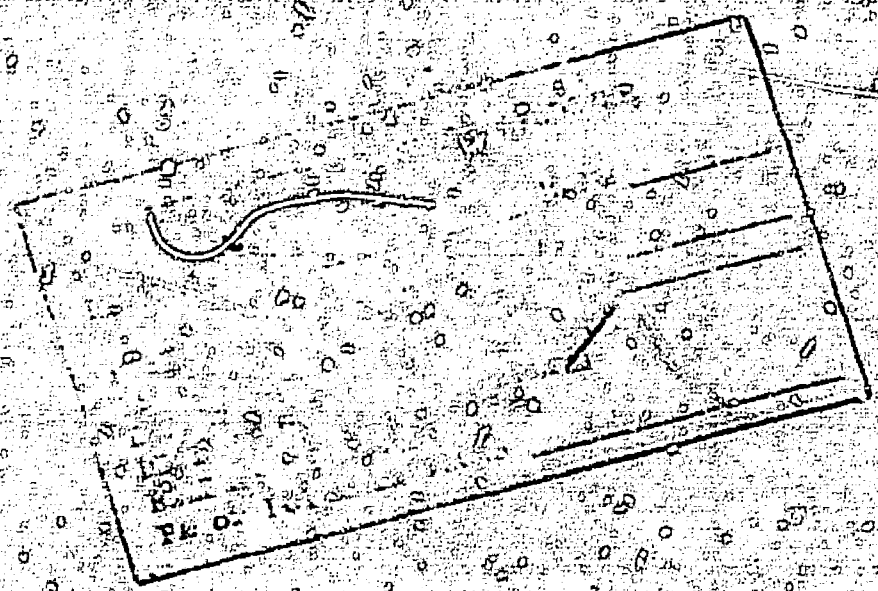
DATE: 11 OCT 81

SUBJECT: COMMENDATION

1. I CONGRATULATE YOU AND YOUR STAFF FOR YOUR DEVOTION TO DUTY, EFFECTIVENESS UNDER TRYING CONDITIONS, AND OUTSTANDING HANDLING OF THE PEOPLES TEMPLE CRISIS, THEFT TO THE GOOD WORK.

2. IN PARTICULAR, I COMMEND DCM DYER WHO ACCOMPANIED YOU TO THE STATION. THOUGH WOUNDED, HE WAS THE LAST OF THE STATION TO LEAVE POST KAITUMA AND RALLIED THE REMAINDER OF THE GROUP UNTIL EVACUATION WAS POSSIBLE. HIS COURAGE AND HEROISM ARE IN THE FINEST TRADITIONS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE. CANCE

UNCLASSIFIED







LET FLIER F  
78 STATE 294495

CONFIDENTIAL

5. BODIES OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN AND THREE NEWSMEN WILL BE  
FLOWN OUT TO U.S. LATE NOVEMBER 28.

6. PEOPLES TEMPLE LAWYER MARK LANE AND COLLEAGUE  
CHARLES GARRY ARE IN GEORGETOWN AND GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE  
NOVEMBER 28.

7. U.S. MILITARY DOES NOT POSSESS OTTER OR SIMILAR  
AIRCRAFT AS REQUESTED BY GOG BUT OTHER SOLUTION BEING  
EXAMINED. VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 23

STATE 294495

CONFIDENTIAL

1034

**CONFIDENTIAL**

071612 254-25

100-443887-100

SECRET

2015.05.15

-112221 2130427 /22

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/WR

REVIEWED BY

DATE

RES or RESERVATION

TS LUTE.

EXPLOSIVE

UCLA -

RE: [redacted]

1A 6.10

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of contacts. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them.

2. The second part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of contacts. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them.

3. The third part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of contacts. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them.

4. The fourth part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of contacts. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them.

5. The fifth part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of contacts. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them.

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8. The eighth part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of contacts. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them.

9. The ninth part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of contacts. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them.

10. The tenth part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which appears to be a directory or a list of contacts. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are listed below them.

STAFF BOARD

SECRET

100-443887-100

FILED: 1901. 27

... ..

[illegible]

SECRET

SECRET

DATE 12-23-53

...DETAILED TO GEORGETOWN AT ...  
...ON HIS VISIT ...  
...THEY FOUND 455 BODIES ...  
...THE REST FROM ...  
...AMONG THE DEAD ...  
...ON THE DAY IS SURVIVORS, INCLUDING ...  
...AND OF THE CHILDREN ...  
...WERE EVACUATED TO GEORGETOWN ...  
...ACCOUNT OF THE ...

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various positions in the Department of the Interior, for the term of years indicated:

Position	Name	Term of Years
Secretary	John W. Foster	Four
Assistant Secretary	William A. Dyer	Four
Chief of Bureau	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Division	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Office	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Section	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Branch	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Unit	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Detail	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Staff	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Administration	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Finance	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Legal	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Technical	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Scientific	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Historical	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Literary	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Artistic	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Musical	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Dramatic	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Cinematic	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Photographic	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Typographic	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Printing	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Publishing	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Distribution	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Circulation	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Sales	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Advertising	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Publicity	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Propaganda	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Information	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Intelligence	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Security	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Defense	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of War	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Peace	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Diplomacy	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Foreign Affairs	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of International Relations	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Inter-Departmental Relations	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Inter-Branch Relations	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Inter-Unit Relations	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Inter-Section Relations	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Inter-Office Relations	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Inter-Division Relations	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Inter-Bureau Relations	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Inter-Ministry Relations	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Inter-Parliamentary Relations	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Inter-International Relations	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of Inter-Universal Relations	John W. Foster	Four
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Chief of Inter-Galactic Relations	John W. Foster	Four
Chief of		

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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THE FIVE I  
76 STATE 294531

CONFIDENTIAL

IN IDENTIFICATION. EXAMINATION OF THE PASSPORTS (STILL IN  
HANDS OF GOC POLICE INVESTIGATORS) SHOULD ALSO GIVE SOME  
CLUES AS TO THE NUMBER OF SURVIVORS WHO FLEW TO THE JUNGLE  
AND WHO THEY MAY BE. THE EMBASSY HAD PREVIOUSLY  
ESTIMATED THIS AT ABOUT 1100. IDENTIFICATION OF THE  
REMAINING BODIES WILL BE DIFFICULT AND PROBABLY BEYOND  
THE CAPABILITY OF THE GUAYANES AUTHERITIES.

IN THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN DIRECTOR AND DEPUTY  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY EUSENELL, IT WAS AGREED THAT AVAILABLE  
AIR TRANSPORT WOULD BE CRITICAL TOMORROW. IN USING  
AIR TRANSPORT CAPACITY, FIRST PRIORITY WOULD BE GIVEN TO

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STATE 294531

THOSE WHO MAY STILL BE ALIVE IN THE  
JUNGLE. WE ALSO POINTED OUT  
THAT THE SURVIVORS ARE CHINESE IDENTIFIED AND MAY BE BELOC-  
ATED TO LEAVE THESE HIDING PLACES TO RETURN TO JOHNSON.  
AT THE SAME TIME, THE QUESTION OF IDENTIFICATION AND  
TRANSPORTATION OF THE BODIES WILL BECOME CRITICAL  
TOMORROW.

AT THIS POINT THE GOC AUTHORITIES ARE NOT ISSUING  
CREAT CERTIFICATES. BUT THE EMBASSY WILL URGE THEM TO DO  
SO. WE DIRECTLY OBSERVED THAT BOTH GOC AMBASSIES AND  
THE EMBASSY HAD HEARD OF A GRAVEYARD IN JOHNSON. WE  
SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS THE SURVIVORS COULD BE IDENTIFIED  
THROUGH THE DECISIONS WE MADE TO THE EMBASSY.

THE TIME ELAPSED SINCE THE DEATH OF  
THE BODIES IN JOHNSON. DIFFICULTIES OF IDENTIFYING THE  
BODIES ARE THE LOGICAL CLIMATE AND PROBLEMS IN TRANSPORTING  
THE BODIES FROM THE REMOTE SITE. THE  
EMBASSY IS INSPECTING THE EMBASSY TO SEEK GOVERNMENT  
PERMISSION FOR LOCAL BURIAL IN MOUNTAIN AREA AFTER IDENTIFICATION.

THE EMBASSY WILL PREPARE TO DISPATCH  
SUPPORT UNITS. ELICITATION AND A GRAVES IDENTIFICATION  
TEAM TO JOHNSON. AT THIS TIME, TWO G-141'S WITH THE  
GRAVES IDENTIFICATION TEAM ARE SCHEDULED TO DEPART FOR  
JOHNSON AT APPROXIMATELY 0900 (EST). TWO G-141'S CARRYING  
SUPPLIES AND SUPPORT PERSONNEL WILL DEPART FOR JOHNSON AT  
1100. THE EMBASSY WILL ARRIVE IN JOHNSON AT 1400. THE  
EMBASSY WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED TO A TEAM OF  
THE EMBASSY (ONE FROM WASHINGTON, D.C., AND FIVE  
FROM THE EMBASSY).

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE 294531

JIM WARD FROM SCA AND FRED SHAYED FROM ICA.  
THE AIRCRAFT CARRYING THE BODIES OF CONGRESSMAN HAN  
AND THREE NEWSMEN IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE AT JOHNSON  
TOMORROW.

CONFIDENTIAL



LIZ ELMER E  
DE STATE 294930

CONFIDENTIAL

S.C. AT 0840 ON NOVEMBER 21 AND TO ARRIVE IN SAN  
FRANCISCO AT 2930 (CALIFORNIA TIME).

AT THE REQUEST OF PRESIDENT CARTER, VICE PRESIDENT  
MONDALE HAS EXPRESSED CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF  
CONGRESSMAN RYAN AND THE NEWSMEN KILLED AT JONESTOWN. VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL



1035

111 ELMER I  
75 STATE 294533

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

STATE 294533

ORIGIN SCS-26

INFO OCT-81 AF-10 ARA-15 ISO-00 CA-01 E-01 OPR-22

0037  
DELETED BY SCS:EHORANE:JD

APPROVED BY SCS:VCELLA

APA:ERBUCE

S/S-O:HEINVO

119996 211421Z /41

211235Z NOT 75

SECRETARY ASST

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY WASHINGTON PRIORITY

STATE 294533

INFO: 119996: A/A

INFO: 0037: A/SO

SUBJECT: CAROLYN SUE LOOKAN

REF: BANGKOK 5080

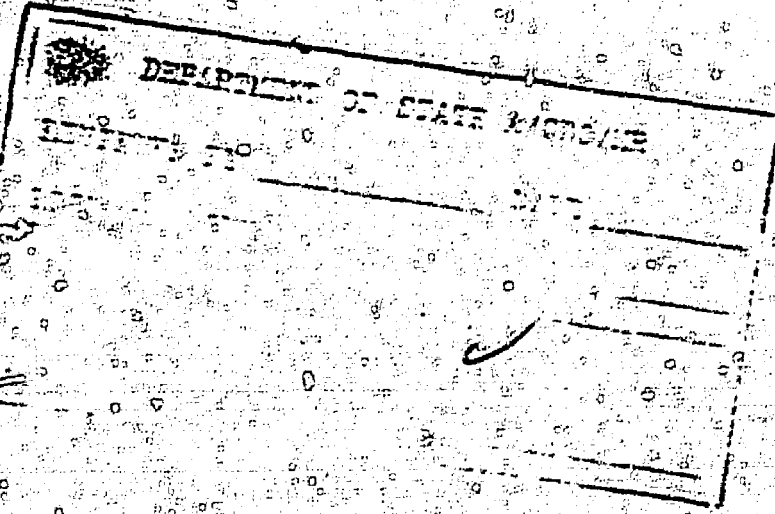
RE: DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED INQUIRY FROM SENATOR

WHEELER REGARDING CAROLYN SUE LOOKAN.

IN. AT THIS TIME NO INFORMATION IS KNOWN W/V CURRENTLY.

WILL ADVISE WHEN ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED



11-551

**CONFIDENTIAL**

57455 304551

81-442-82

1050	OCT-21	SUB-12	PA-10	NEA-11	ISO-20	SSO-20	DODE-22
1051	PA-01	CA-01	ICAE-00	H-01	PA-01	SS-15	NSCB-00
1052	CINE-02	INR-10	NSAE-00	TRSE-00	SS-06	ACT-02	
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DRAFTED BY ARA: HENRICH  
APPROVED BY ARA: JENSENELL

-1195-2114152 1-22

0 211343Z NOV 78

[illegible]

DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION INTO CANAL ZONE

11-11-68

CHICAGO, ILL 2 MACBLLZ AFB FLA

W. C. CINCINNATI, OHIO, NOVEMBER 22, 1904

DATE: 11/11/1964

44-38861-1079

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

11572 GDS

PAGE: 0000, 0000 (RYAN, LEC), 00

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000 1001 1002 1003 1004 1005 1006 1007 1008 1009 1010 1011 1012 1013 1014 1015 1016 1017 1018 1019 1020 1021 1022 1023 1024 1025 1026 1027 1028 1029 1030 1031 1032 1033 1034 1035 1036 1037 1038 1039 1040 1041

SECRET

204531 AND 204532

1. WE ARE AWAITING EMBASSY VIEWS ON OUR SUGGESTION THAT THE  
WIDOWING OF THE JONESTOWN TRAGEDY BE STAGED AT JONESTOWN,  
GIVEN THE LONG TIME OF THE BODIES IN OPEN AIR AND THE FACT  
THAT WE DON'T HAVE SIGNIFICANT HELICOPTER LIFT CAPACITY UN-  
TIL WEDNESDAY. AMBASSADOR HUBBARD IS CURRENTLY CONSULTING  
WITH THE GUINEAN AUTHORITIES ON THIS SITUATION. MEAN-  
WHILE THE FOCUS IS ON HELICOPTERS AND SUPPLIES INTO GEORGE-  
TOWN BEING THIS MORNING WITH THE ARRIVAL OF THREE AIR-  
CRAFT CARRYING SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND TWO UNASSEMBLED  
HELICOPTERS. LOCAL BURIAL WILL NOT SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE  
THE NEED FOR U.S. EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL NEEDED TO CARRY  
OUT SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS IN COOPERATION WITH  
GUINEAN AUTHORITIES. THREE HE-53 HELICOPTERS ARE  
SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN GEORGETOWN TOMORROW MORNING AS WELL

**CONFIDENTIAL**

PAGE 10

1-1000

LEE ELMER F  
79 STATE 294561

CONFIDENTIAL

AS FOUR ADDITIONAL LIGHT HELICOPTERS.

2. SIX FBI AGENTS, JIM WARD (SCA) AND FRED SCAVER (ICA) ARE SCHEDULED TO DEPART MACDILL AFB AT 11:55 AM TODAY. THE AGENTS WILL JOIN A LEGAL ATTACHE FROM CARACAS WHO ARRIVED YESTERDAY.

3. THE EMBASSY IS LOOKING INTO THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE OTTER DAMAGED IN THE AMUSE AT PORT KAITUMA CAN BE REPAIRED IF PARTS WERE TO BE ELONG IN AN OUR MILITARY TASK FORCE.

4. THE PRESS POOL WHICH VISITED JONESTOWN YESTERDAY HAS BEGUN TO FILE DETAILED STORIES. THE POOL WAS MADE UP OF CHARLES KRAUSE AND FRANK JOHNSON OF THE WASHINGTON POST, MOHAMED HAMELUDIN OF REUTERS/CANA AND A GUYANESE PHOTO-

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PAGE 2

STATE 294561

WARRIOR, VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL





1038

SEE SLIPER E  
20 STATE 294637

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE


LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
PAGE 81  
ORIGIN: PA-15  
STATE 294637

INCO OCT-31 ISO-00 AID-25 SSC-06 CA-01 L-02 FFI-00  
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PRSE-00 E-01 SP-02 PA-01  
SEO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 ICAI-00 /045 R  
DELETED BY IBA/PI:WDCALDERHEAD/CHO-GAECFA:SM  
APPROVED BY ABA/PI:WDCALDERHEAD

122376 211592 /53

2015572 OV 78  
EM SECRETARY ASRDC  
TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 294637  
FOR ADMIN: OFFICER FRANK EVCLISE FROM CALDERHEAD

RE: 11552:  
REAS: 11552:  
SUBJECT: 11552:  
REFERENCE: 11552:  
ALL COSTS FOR U.S. PERSONNEL, INCLUDING SPECIAL  
TEAMS AND MILITARY, BEING FUNDED AT THE WASHINGTON  
FIELD. SOCIAL LABOR COSTS AND RELATED EXPENSES CONCERNED  
WITH LOCAL DISPOSITION OF REMAINS SCHEDULED IN FISCAL  
EXPENSES BE CHARGED TO POST'S PROGRAM S AND E ALLOTMENT.  
FUNDING FOR THIS MAY BE INCLUDED ON NETT ALLOTMENT.  
REQUESTED EQUIPMENT: VANCE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/VR	
DATE	DATE
	
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STATE-80 SY-85 CIAI-80 INF-14 NCAT-80 INRE-72

CODE-80 CC-80 COTE-80 AID-85 ICAE-80 /458 8

PREPARED BY ARA:JAN SANTIA MARIA

APPROVED BY ARA:JABUSEKELL

S/S-O:JCMARTIN

129575 2122492 /61

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FM SECRETARY DEFENSE

TO JCS WASHINGTON IMMEDIATE 1978

VIA AIRMAIL/STATE DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATE

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DETROIT 124-15

DRAFTED BY: ARA/GWC: ARA/SCHE  
 APPROVED BY: ARA/GWC: JABUSEWELL  
 SGT. NICHOLAS (TRATT)  
 6/9/68

-322271 2202457 /73

FD-302 (Rev. 11-552)

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FEB 11 1964  
U.S. AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS  
AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK, NEW YORK, MAY 1, 1968, I, JAMES EARL RAY, JR., DO hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original document on file in the New York City Office of the New York City Police Department, and that the same is a true and correct copy of the original document on file in the New York City Office of the New York City Police Department.

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MEMBERS WHO LEFT FROM JONESTOWN  
GUYANA BY SEA FOR NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES.  
WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES, AND REPORT  
THEIR VOICES MAY COME TO THEIR ATTENTION.  
TO POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS OF US LAW IN  
TO DATE WE HAVE NO FURTHER INFORMATION  
TELEPHONIC OR OTHERWISE.

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
 BUREAU OF CUSTOMS  
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PAGE MICHAEL S  
76 STATE 295259

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PAGE 01 STATE 295259 TOSEC 130004

ORIGIN ARA-15

INFO OCT-21 EUR-12 AEA-11 ISO-00 OF-01 SS-15 SY-25  
INR-12 GA-01 MCT-02 SOS-05 PA-01 AID-05 OC-06  
L-02 CG-00 CCO-00 EYE-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USSS-00  
INRE-00 TESS-00 CODE-00 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 JUSF-00  
NSAF-00 DOTE-00 /294 R8

DRAFTED BY ARA:G\*G:ASLEGPT:CFC

APPROVED BY ARA:IBUSHNELL

S/SO:JTHYDEN

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FM STATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

USCIN SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE

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USCINACERB FT MEYERSON VA IMMEDIATE

CHE 10TH AIRBORNE CORPS FT BRAGG NC IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE ATTN: J-2 IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 295259 TOSEC 130004

LONDON FOR MICHAEL FINLEY, TOKYO FOR SENATOR HAYAKAWA

W.O. 11652M GDS

INFO: CASC, CDEP (RYAN, LEO), CY

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PAGE 02 STATE 295259 TOSEC 130004

SUBJECT: SITUATION REPORT NO. 11

REF: STATE AND PREVIOUS

1. THE GUYANESE CABINET HAS OFFICIALLY REQUESTED THE USG TO REMOVE ALL REMAINS FROM GUYANESE TERRITORY ASAP. THIS DECISION WAS CONVEYED TO OUR AMEMBASSADOR AND DCM BY PM BUREAU. THERE IS ALSO A RUMOR THAT THE GOG IS PLANNING TO RELEASE A LIST OF 150 VICTIMS SHORTLY, AND WE ARE EXPECTING DELIVERY OF THE 500 AMERICAN PASSPORTS RECOVERED BY THE GOG TO THE EMBASSY SHORTLY.

2. US ASSETS ON THE GROUND AT THIS TIME INCLUDE TWO HELICOPTERS (ONE HU-1, ONE OH-6A), ONE U-21, TWO C-130S (ONE REQUIRED TO LEAVE SOON), AND ONE C-141 DUE TO DEPART TODAY AT 1600 EST. EN ROUTE ARE TWO C-141S, ONE CONTAINING CONSULAR PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT (DUE TONIGHT) AND ONE WITH ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT AND THE GRAVES REGISTRATION TEAM (DUE 2123 EST). DUE TOMORROW FROM PUERTO RICO ARE THREE HH-53 "GOLEBY GREEN GIANT" HELICOPTERS.

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PAGE 1

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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78 STATE 295259

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3. THE JOG COMMUNICATIONS TEAM HAS ARRIVED IN-COUNTRY BUT IS NOT YET ESTABLISHED IN JONESTOWN AND ON THE AIR. TWO CONSULAR OFFICERS WILL ALSO GO TO JONESTOWN SOON, EITHER TONIGHT OR TOMORROW MORNING.

4. THE JOG HAS REQUESTED TWO REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT FOR THE GUYANA AIRWAYS CORPORATION; THIS REQUEST IS UNDER STUDY BY AID. THE JOG ALSO WANTS HELICOPTER SPARE PARTS AND OTHER RELATED EQUIPMENT. SINCE THE JOG IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FMS WE ARE REVIEWING THIS REQUEST TO DETERMINE HOW TO PROVIDE ITEMS NEEDED AS A RESULT OF THIS EMERGENCY.

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PAGE 03 STATE 295259 TOSEC 130004

5. AID IS DOING CONTINGENCY PLANNING ON REQUIREMENTS FOR TEMPORARY LODGING (TENTS), FEEDING AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES FOR JONESTOWN SURVIVORS.

6. WE HAVE ASKED THE EMBASSY TO ADVISE US AS TO ADDITIONAL STAFFING REQUIREMENTS. THE EMBASSY IS REVIEWING ITS NEEDS.

7. GUYANESE AMBASSADOR LAURENCE E. MANN IS RETURNING TO WASHINGTON TONIGHT. HE HAS REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH THE ACTING SECRETARY TOMORROW.

8. COST ESTIMATES FOR OUR EFFORTS IN GUYANA TO DATE ARE VERY PRELIMINARY, BUT FOR AIRLIFT ALONE PROBABLY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF DOLS 1.5 MILLION. CHRISTOPHER

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WASH MICHAEL S  
75 STATE 295317

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PAGE 21 STATE 295317

ORIGIN ARA-12

INFO OCT-81 SS-15 SIG-23 PMO-01 150-20 /035 2

DRAFTED BY ARA:CFUCK BRAYSEAN; ARA (CUT. VC):20 DONNELL:23

APPROVED BY ARA:JABUSHNELL

ARA/AND:RZIMMERMANN

S/S-O:JTHYDEV

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS

CINCSOUTHCOM CUAPRY ETS CANAL ZONE

CINCMAC SCOTT AFB ILL

CS EEDCOM/ECJ2 MACDILL AFB FLA

USCINCARRED FT MCPHERSON GA

CDF 1ST AIRBORNE CORPS FT BRAGG NC

C O M F I D E N T I A L STATE 295317

0.0.11652: GDS

TAG: CASC, CRIP (RYAN, LEO), CY

REF: STATE 203999 AND PREVIOUS

SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT ON SITUATION IN GUYANA

1. FOLLOWING FOR YOUR INFORMATION IS A REPORT ON THE  
SHOOTING INCIDENT THAT OCCURRED IN GUYANA ON NOVEMBER 18  
IN WHICH CONGRESSMAN LEO RYAN AND OTHERS WERE KILLED.

2. AT APPROXIMATELY 6:30 P.M. EST, NOVEMBER 18, BRASSY  
GEORGETOWN REPORTED THAT CODEL RYAN HAD BEEN ATTACKED  
WHILE RETURNING FROM THE PEOPLES TEMPLE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY  
IN THE REMOTE NORTHWEST INTERIOR OF GUYANA.  
CODEL RYAN HAD TRAVELED TO GUYANA TO INVESTIGATE ALLE-  
GATIONS BY RELATIVES THAT MEMBERS OF THE PEOPLES  
TEMPLE COMMUNITY WERE BEING HELD AGAINST THEIR WILL.

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PAGE 22 STATE 295317

RYAN WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A LARGE NUMBER OF JOURNALISTS

INCLUDING AN NBC TV CAMERA CREW FROM SAN FRANCISCO

AS WELL AS BY THE EMBASSY GEORGETOWN DCM (RICEARD

OWEN), MARE LANE AND ANOTHER ATTORNEY WHO ARE COUNSEL

FOR THE PEOPLES TEMPLE COMMUNITY. THE GROUP TRAVELED

TO PORT KAITUMA, THE NEAREST AIRSTRIP TO THE COMMUNITY,

BY CHARTERED AIRCRAFT THE AFTERNOON OF NOVEMBER 17 AND,

AFTER HAVING SPENT THE NIGHT AT THE COMMUNITY, SOUGHT

TO RETURN TO GEORGETOWN ON NOVEMBER 18, ACCOMPANIED BY

SOME TEN TO TWENTY MEMBERS OF THE PEOPLES TEMPLE WHO WISHED

TO LEAVE. THE PARTY WAS BOARDING TWO CHARTERED AIRCRAFT

WHEN ONE OF THE TEMPLE MEMBERS IN THE SMALLER OF THE

TWO AIRCRAFT PRODUCED A GUN AND BEGAN TO SHOOT AT OTHER

PASSENGERS. AT APPROXIMATELY THE SAME TIME, A FLATBED

TRAILER PULLED BY A TRACTOR APPEARED ON THE AIRSTRIP.

A NUMBER OF PEOPLE ON THE TRAILER, PRESUMED TO BE

PEOPLES TEMPLE MEMBERS, OPENED FIRE ON CONGRESSMAN

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PAGE 1

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3. MEASLEY GEORGEON WAS IN IMMEDIATE AND CLOSE CONTACT

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OF GOVT IN ECONOMIC TEMPER  
COMMITMENT ON NOVEMBER 19

10

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SECRET

5. HEATH HILL AND SENECAVILLE OF PC

ADVANCE FROM THE MODERN

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

[illegible]

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2

PASIK MICHAEL S  
75 STATE 295317

CONFIDENTIAL

QUESTIONS WERE DIRECTED AT USG CONTACT WITH PEOPLES  
TEMPLE COMMUNITY IN GUYANA PRIOR TO CONGRESSMAN RYAN'S  
VISIT TO SUBSTANTIATE CHARGES OF ABUSE AND DETENTION OF  
MEMBERS. SUMMARY OF BRIEFING BEING TRANSMITTED TO POSTS  
VIA WIRELESS FILE.

7. PASS SUBSTANCE OF ABOVE TO ALL CODELS. PASS TO  
CONSULATES AS APPROPRIATE. CONSULAR INQUIRIES MAY BE  
DIRECTED TO GUYANA WORKING GROUP TASK FORCE, WASHINGTON,  
D.C., PHONE (202) 632-9380 TERN 23 OR 632-6610 TERN

CHRISTOPHER  
CONFIDENTIAL



PASEY MICHAEL S  
79 STATE 295682

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PAGE 01 STATE 295682 TOSEC 130207

ORIGIN ARA-15

INFO OCT-31 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 E-01 SS-15 SY-25  
INR-10 CA-01 AS-02 MCT-02 SCS-06 PA-01 AID-25  
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DRAFTED BY ARA/GWG:SGIPSON

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FM SECRETARY OF STATE

TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

INFO SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY ZUWAIT IMMEDIATE

CINCSOUTHCOM QUARRY HES CA IMMEDIATE

CINCMAC SCOTT AFB ILL IMMEDIATE

US FPOC/MCJ2 MACDILL AFS FLA IMMEDIATE

USCINCPAC FT MCPIERSON GA IMMEDIATE

CDE 1ST AIRBORNE CORPS FT BRAGG NC IMMEDIATE

USCINCPAC VAIHINGEN AB ATTN: J-2 IMMEDIATE

O C M I D I A I A I STATE 295682 TOSEC 130207

LONDON FOR MICHAEL ROWLEY. TOKYO FOR SENATOR FUKUDA

U.S. 1100Z: JIS

INFO: CDDP, (RYAN, LEO), GY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02

STATE 295682 TOSEC 130207

SUBJECT: SITUATION REPORT NO. 12

INFO: STATE 295259 AND PREVIOUS

1. BASED ON INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE GUYANIAN AUTHORITIES,

EMBASSY GEORGETOWN HAS TRANSMITTED THE NAMES OF 174

OF THE DECEASED. THE SCA TEAM HAS BEGUN NOTIFYING THE NEXT

OF NEXT. APPARENTLY, SOME ELEMENTS OF THE PRESS HAVE RE-

CEIVED THE SAME LIST. HOWEVER, THE DEPARTMENT WILL NOT BE

RELEASING THE NAMES TO THE MEDIA.

2. THAT THE SURVIVORS HAVE BEEN LOCATED IN THE JONESTOWN

AREA. THERE ARE PERHAPS NO MORE THAN 22. COUNTING THE

CLOSE TO 70 PEOPLE'S TEMPLE MEMBERS ARE NOW IN GEORGETOWN.

SOME OF THESE WERE NOT IN JONESTOWN ON SATURDAY. U.S. MILI-

TARY AUTHORITIES BELIEVE THEY HAVE SUFFICIENT FACILITIES

AND PERSONNEL IN GEORGETOWN IN THE EVENT OF ANY INFLEX OF

SURVIVORS.

3. LARRY LAYTON, THE PERSON NAMED AS THE ONE WHO STARTED

THE SHOOTING, IS IN GEORGETOWN IN CUSTODY OF THE POLICE.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 1



PAGE MICHAEL S  
79 STATE 295622

CONFIDENTIAL

SENDING A LETTER TO THE DEPARTMENT CONTAINING MANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT'S ROLE PRIOR TO THE EVENTS IN GUYANA. STAFFERS ARE NOW WORKING ON THE QUESTIONS, WHICH LIKELY WILL COVER ALL ISSUES RAISED IN THE PRESS AND MORE. A DECISION ON POSSIBLE HEARINGS WILL BE MADE AFTER RECEIPT OF THE DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE.

2. IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE, WE HAVE DETERMINED THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT DID NOT SEND A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO PEOPLE'S TEMPLE LEADER JONES. ACCORDING TO CHRISTOPHER NASTIMIENTO, A GERMAN OFFICIAL NOW IN NEW YORK, THE QUOTES IN A PEOPLE'S TEMPLE BOOKLET ATTRIBUTED TO VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE WERE TAKEN FROM STATEMENTS THE VICE PRESIDENT SUPPOSEDLY MADE, POSSIBLY DURING THE 1976 CAMPAIGN IN CALIFORNIA. CHRISTOPHER

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PASEX MICHAEL S  
76 STATE 295726

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PAGE 21 STATE 295786 TOSIC 130009  
ORIGIN ARA-15  
INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-05 CA-01 SS-15 SSO-02 CCO-00  
/035 R  
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APPROVED BY ARA:JAEUSENELL  
S/S-O:STELARGA  
CA/SCS:EDAVIS

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TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE  
USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE  
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SINCSOUTHCOM QUARRY HTS CANAL ZONE IMMEDIATE  
CINCMAC SCOTT AFB IL IMMEDIATE  
USMCDCOM/RC12 MACDILL AFS FL IMMEDIATE  
USCINCPAC FT MCPIERSON CA IMMEDIATE  
COP 18TH AIRBORNE CORPS FT BRAGG NC IMMEDIATE  
USCINCPAC VAINHONGEN SE ATTN J  
C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 295786 TOSIC 130009  
LONDON FOR MICHAEL FIVLEY. TOKYO FOR SENATOR FAYATANA  
U.S. 11052: GUS  
PASS: 0450. 0000. (STAN. LHO). BY  
SUBJECT: SITUATION REPORT NO. 17  
CONFIDENTIAL  
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231 DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
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PAGE 22 STATE 295786 TOSIC 130009  
REF: STATE 295682 AND PREVIOUS  
1. THE MAJORITY (25 MEN) OF THE GRAVES REGISTRATION/BODY RECOVERY UNIT ARRIVED IN GEORGETOWN DURING THE NIGHT AND 19 ARE NOW IN JONESTOWN. THE MOVEMENT OF MEN AND MATERIAL TO JONESTOWN AND MATTHEWS RIDGE IS BEING ACCOMPLISHED BY THE THREE U.S. AIRCRAFT CURRENTLY OPERATIONAL IN COUNTRY (ONE OH-1H, ONE OH-59 AND ONE U-21) AND GUYANESE DEFENSE FORCE AIRCRAFT. REFLECTING YET ANOTHER DELAY, THE THREE FH-53 HEAVY HELICOPTERS ARE NOW DUE TO ARRIVE IN GEORGETOWN AT 1300 EST. RESEED CREWS WILL BE IN PLACE AND THE AIRCRAFT CAN BE PUT IN IMMEDIATE SERVICE.  
2. FOUR ADDITIONAL HUEY HELICOPTERS ARE ON THE WAY: THE FIRST TWO ARE SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN GEORGETOWN AT 0922 EST. THE SECOND TWO WILL BE AIRLIFTED TO GUYANA LATER TODAY.  
3. THERE ARE CURRENTLY 206 U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL IN COUNTRY AND THERE WILL BE 320-350 BY THE END OF THE DAY.  
4. THE FIRSTNINETEEN-SIX CASES FOR BODY TRANSFER (BOXES SUITABLE FOR STACKING DURING SHIPMENT) WILL BE SENT FROM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 1

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7

PASFK MICHAEL S  
78 STATE 295796

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RICHMOND AT 0900 THIS MORNING AND WILL BE IN GUYANA IN  
TIME FOR THE FIRST BODIES TO BE PREPARED AND READY TO  
SHIPMENT AT 1630 EST. THE BODIES WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO  
DOVER AIR DELAPART.

5. OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FOUR BODIES PLUS TAP  
IDENTIFIED BY JUVANESSE AUTHORITIES, WE HAVE NO NEXT OF  
KIN INFORMATION ON SEVENTY-THREE. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO  
ASCERTAIN NEXT OF KIN THROUGH PASSPORT RECORDS AND IN-  
QUIRIES. WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF NOTIFYING NEXT OF KIN  
CONFIDENTIAL  
CONFIDENTIAL  
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STATE 295796 TOSIC 130009

IN THE OTHER CASES.

U. EMERGENCY GEORGETOWN WAS UNOFFICIALLY INFORMED LAST  
EVENING THAT LARRY LAYTON WILL BE ARRIVING IN JUVANESSE  
AUTHORITIES TODAY AND CLEARED FIVE MURDER. ATTEMPTED  
REDEER AND RELATED CHARGES. THERE OTHER PEOPLE'S  
FEMALE MEMBERS, TIMOTHY AND MICHAEL CANTER AND MICHAEL  
PROKES. HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO THE LOCAL FBI IN GEORGETOWN  
AND MAY ALSO BE CHARGED. ALL KNOWN SUSPECTS FROM  
JUVANESSE ARE NOW IN GEORGETOWN AT THE EXCEPTION  
OF ONE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS IN PORT KAITUMA WAITING  
TRANSPORTATION. CHRISTOPHER  
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PASER MICHAEL S.  
78 STATE 295540

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ORIGIN PA-02

INFO OCT-21 ARA-15 ISO-00 SSO-00 /012 E

DRAFTED BY PA/PRS:MEADER:JF

APPROVED BY ARA:JABUSHNELL

S/S-O:SVALLERGA

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TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN NIAC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 295940

FOR VICTOR DIKEOS

U.C. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, OCEAN, BY:V, LEO, GY

SUBJECT: MEDIA INTERVIEWS OF RICH MCCOY

HEREWITH FOLLOWS TRANSCRIPTS OF THREE RICH MCCOY INTER-

VIEWS Aired BY ABC AND CBS NEWS:

(1) ABC-TV WORLD NEWS TONIGHT, TED KOPPEL (11/21)

KOPPEL: THE CALLS ARE COMING IN ROUND THE CLOCK, ANXIOUS  
RELATIVES CONTACTING THE GUYANA TASK FORCE EXPECTING THE  
WORST AND MOST TIMES HEARING IT. AND STILL THE NAGGING  
QUESTION, COULDN'T IT ALL HAVE BEEN AVOIDED, AS THE U.S.  
CONSUL IN GUYANA RICHARD MCCOY WENT INTO THE PEOPLES TEMPLE  
THREE TIMES.

MCCOY: IN ALL CASES THE INDIVIDUALS I TALKED TO IN  
PERSONAL, PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS DENIED ANY ALLEGATIONS  
OF MISDEMEANOR.

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KOPPEL: WHEN YOU TALKED TO THESE PEOPLE WAS IT A MATTER  
OF SAYING, WELL, I'M WILLING TO TAKE YOU OUT BUT I CAN'T  
GO IN RIGHT NOW.

MCCOY: NO. WHEN I TALKED WITH THEM I ALWAYS TOLD THEM  
IF YOU WANT TO GO WE WILL GO RIGHT NOW. EVERY TIME I WENT  
TO JONESTOWN I WENT ACCOMPANIED BY A GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA  
OFFICIAL AND A GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA VEHICLE SO THAT I  
WAS NOT AT THE DISPOSAL OF AT THE MERCY, IF YOU WILL, OF  
THE PEOPLES TEMPLE FOR TRANSPORTATION OR ANY OTHER ARRANGE-  
MENTS. SO THAT THE PEOPLE REALIZED AT THAT POINT, IF WE  
WERE TO GO WE WERE GOING TO GO THEM.

KOPPEL: NONE OF THE PEOPLE, NOT ONE OF THE FORTY TO FIFTY  
PEOPLE INTERVIEWED BY RICHARD MCCOY TOOK HIM UP ON HIS  
OFFER TO GET THEM OUT.

(2) ABC-TV "GOOD MORNING AMERICA", TED KOPPEL (11/22)

KOPPEL: THE FOCUS IS ON THE DEAD, AND INDEED THE STATE  
DEPARTMENT IS TRYING TO GIVE ANXIOUS RELATIVES AS MUCH  
INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE. BUT THE GUYANA TASK FORCE AT  
STATE IS TRYING TO TRACK DOWN EVERY POSSIBLE LEAD ON WHAT  
MAY HAVE HAPPENED TO THE MISSING WHO COULD STILL BE ALIVE.  
THIS MAN, RICHARD MCCOY, WAS U.S. CONSUL IN GUYANA.

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MCCOY: I WAS DOWN THERE THREE TIMES. THE THREE TIMES I  
WENT IN I WENT IN ESPECIALLY FOR THE SAME REASON CONGRES-  
S. I CAN LIVE IN. AND ON NO OCCASION DID I EVER FEEL AFRAID  
FOR MY LIFE OR PERSONAL SAFETY. MY OWN PERSONAL OPINION

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WAS THE MOST THAT WOULD HAPPEN IS THAT THE CONGRESSMEN  
WOULD BE REFUSED ACCESS TO THE SITE. THE ISSUE IN THIS  
CASE WAS CREDIBILITY. WHO WAS TELLING THE TRUTH?

PEOPLES TEMPLE ORGANIZATION OF PEOPLE THAT WERE CLOSE TO  
THE PEOPLES TEMPLE OF THE CONCERNED RELATIVES—WHICH WAS  
THE BASIC PROBLEM.

MCCOY: AND YOU WERE NEVER ABLE TO REACH THEM?

MCCOY: WE WERE ABLE TO SPOT IT.

MCCOY: FOR THE MOMENT AT LEAST THERE IS NO TIME FOR CON-  
SIDERATION OF FOR THE NEXT-THAT-THINGS. ALL EFFORTS NOT ARE  
EXPENDED TOWARD FINDING THE MISSING AND ACCOUNTING FOR THE  
DEAD.

(2) CBS-TV MORNING NEWS. TEN OCTOBER (11/22)

STAFF: THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAYS IT WILL COMPLY WITH  
JAPANESE GOVERNMENT REQUEST TO REMOVE BODIES FROM THE  
JUNGLE AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE. THE ONLY FOLLY NOW IS  
SETTLING ENOUGH AIRPORTS INTO THE REMOTE JUNGLE AREA. JUST  
BY THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT DECIDED NOT TO GO AHEAD WITH  
BODIES TO THE JUNGLES THERE IS NOT CLEAR. BUT ONE STATE  
DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL SAID, CAN YOU ELABORATE? GUYANAISE  
OFFICIALS WILL STILL HAVE TO TELL OUT DEATH CERTIFICATES  
AND KEEP IN SOME CONCERN WITH THAT A LISTING OF SUICIDE  
AND DEATHS OF SEVERAL OF SOME INSTANCES IN THE  
JUNGLE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL SAID THAT WHERE AIRPORTS SHOULD  
PEOPLE AND NOTHING MORE.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN BUSHNELL SAID THE U.S.  
DEPARTMENT OF TO THE GUYANAISE GOVERNMENT COMPLAINTS ABOUT  
COTTONS AT THE CAMP. WHICH CAME FROM RELATIVES OF

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COMMUNE MEMBERS. AND DURING THEIR VISITS TO JONESTOWN  
MCCOY - WHO WAS THEN WITH THE EMBASSY IN GUYANA -  
SUGGESTED OUT PEOPLE THEY HAD RECEIVED MAIL ABOUT AND QUES-

TIONED THEM.

MCCOY: IN ALL CASES THE INDIVIDUAL SAID THAT THEY WERE NOT  
HEARD. AGAINST THEM WILL BE ESPECIALLY HEARD. THAT  
THEY HAD COME TO GUYANA AND TO THE PEOPLES TEMPLE COMMUNE  
OF THEIR OWN FREE WILL, THAT THEY WERE THERE TO BUILD A  
NEW LIFE.

MCCOY: MCCOY SAID THAT SINCE THE MASSACRE HE HAS  
RECEIVED BACK TO THOSE VISITS AND IS CONTINGENT THAT HE AND  
OTHER AMERICAN OFFICIALS WHO VISITED THE JONESTOWN COMMUNE  
DID ALL THEY COULD DO AT THE TIME. CHRISTOPHER

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PASEK MICHAEL S  
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PASEK MICHAEL S  
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ORIGIN ARA-15

INFO OCT-21 ISO-22 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 ICAI-00  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 E-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00  
PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 SY-05 SYE-02 FBIZ-02 MCT-02  
SCS-26 CA-21 JUSE-02 TRSE-02 /060 R

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APPROVED BY ARA:JAPUSEWELL  
S/S-O:SVALERGA

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TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 295932

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GASC, OREP (RYAN, LEO), GY

SUBJECT: FBI INVESTIGATION OF RYAN DEATH

THE FBI MADE THE FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE NOVEMBER 21:

BEGIN QUOTE: FBI DIRECTOR WILLIAM F. WEBSTER CONFIRMED

TODAY THAT THE FBI IS INVESTIGATING THE MURDER OF CONGRESS-

MAN LEO J. RYAN OF CALIFORNIA AND THE EVENTS SURROUNDING

HIS DEATH AT JONESTOWN, GUYANA.

DIRECTOR WEBSTER ADDED THE MURDER OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN IS

BEING INVESTIGATED BY THE FBI UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE

CONGRESSIONAL ASSASSINATIONS STATUTE INCLUDING CONSPIRACY

PROVISIONS OF THE ACT; SINCE THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE

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DEATH OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN CAN BE PROSECUTED FOR THIS

FEDERAL OFFENSE IF THEY ARE FOUND IN OR RETURNED TO THE

JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

SURVIVORS OF THE SHOOTING INCIDENT AT JONESTOWN ARE BEING

INTERVIEWED BY SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE FBI UPON THEIR RETURN

TO THE UNITED STATES. OTHER PERSONS WHO MIGHT HAVE

INFORMATION RELATING TO THIS INCIDENT ARE BEING INTER-

VIEWED THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES. FBI REPRESENTATION

IN GUYANA IS BEING COORDINATED WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT

AND THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA. CHRISTOPHER

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE	
DATE: 11/22/72	
TIME: 11:00	
BY: [Signature]	
FOR: [Signature]	
SUBJECT: RYAN DEATH	
ACTION: [ ]	
REMARKS: [ ]	
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NSAF-00 PA-02 TRSE-00 MCT-02 SY-05 SYE-00 USSS-00  
E-02 AID-05 SS-15 OC-05 CCO-00 JUSE-03 CG-00  
DOVE-00 L-23 SSC-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 ICAE-00 /073 R

DRAFTED BY CA/SCS:RDAVIS:JT

APPROVED BY ARA:JARUSENELL

S/S-O:SVALERGA

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SECRET WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2269

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CINCSOUTH IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 295929

U.C. 11652: N/A

REAS: CASC. ORTP (RYAN, LEO). CY

SUBJECT: DESTINATION OF AIRCRAFT

THIS WILL CONFIRM INFO RELATED BY PHONE THAT DESTINATION

OF AIRCRAFT CARRYING REMAINS WILL BE U.S. AIR FORCE

WORTHAMPTON, DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, DOVER, DELAWARE. CHRISTOPHER

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE WDC/ER	
REVIEWED BY _____	DATE _____
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